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# THE NONCONFORMIST.

"The dissidence of dissent and the protestantism of the protestant religion."

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## Ecclesiastical Affairs.

### HOME EDUCATION.

THE late events at Tahiti, at the moral of which we glanced in our last number, suggest to the thoughtful not a few important considerations. We are anxious that they should not be overlooked. It cannot be expected from us that we should expound or even indicate every sentiment which these facts are but too eloquent in enunciating; but there is one which we cannot allow ourselves to leave unnoticed—one, from which so many lines of practical inference branch out, that wholly to overlook it would be a serious omission of duty. We may state it in a few words. Indeed, it resolves itself into what we are most of us familiar with—the vast moment of attending well to early impressions—or, in other words, the wide and various consequences which may result from what we shall venture to call—home education.

Home education! What is it amongst dissenters, on the large scale? What is the kind of ecclesiastical atmosphere they breathe in Great Britain, their central home? Here it is that, as a body, they drink in the truths which, when assimilated, give form and character to all their proceedings. That which they do abroad—the light which they reflect, the influence which they exert, the philanthropic and religious enterprises they undertake and promote—all will, of necessity, take a tinge of the sentiment and feeling prevailing in society as it exists here in England. Every rill of thought which finds its way to other parts of the world, through the channels of nonconforming energy, will taste more or less of those ingredients which enter into the composition of opinion at the fountain head. Ignorance of the first principles of religious liberty at home, will not be likely to become converted into knowledge, simply by being transported to distant regions. They who have been brought up in the midst of profound indifference as to the basis of instrumentality upon which religion should be made to rest—whether upon the sanctions of law, or upon the energies of Christian willinghood—will not, it may be confidently predicted, carry with them to far-off spheres any warmth of zeal for the development of voluntaryism. The man has, in all ages, answered to the child. The extremities will always partake of the languor or the vigour of the heart. The suckers which spring up about the tree, will bear the same nature as the parent stock. In a word, what dissenters are at home, their missionaries, emigrants, travelers, and settlers, will be abroad. They are but the overflows, if so we may speak, of that volume of thought, sentiment, and principle, which has its being in this our native land—streamlets, which carry away the too exuberant fulness of a mighty lake—and, in all essential characters, as is the last, so will be the first.

Take with this thought another which inexplicably enhances its importance. The present is an age of incipient intercommunication between ourselves and all the various tribes of man. Steam has opened to us a pathway for regions once all but inaccessible. To us, geographical limits have dwindled into scarcely appreciable lines. The globe is now our country, and men of all climes our familiar acquaintances. Science has well nigh annihilated distance, and the Englishman's home is on every soil.

Nor is this all. Precisely at the same period of time during which this vast physical revolution has been working itself out, mind, too, has undergone a change. The germs of new principles—or rather of principles which, although coeval with

Christianity itself, were lost for many ages—have been brought to light, and, as it would appear, in the very nick of time. The long frost of popular acquiescence in "things as they are and have been" gives symptoms everywhere of breaking up. Society's bosom, like a rich soil which a south wind has released from icy congealment, is ready to return tenfold the reward of culture. The seeds of truth which are dropped now will spring up and bear appropriate fruit. We seem to be at the beginning of a new epoch. Ages to come will take their tone from the age which now is. The *vis inertiae* which gives their stability to all human institutions, and which, however valuable its results in some respects, is an ever present and ever operative bar to social progression, has been overcome, as it usually is about once in three or four centuries. The different movements now in progress will determine, to some extent, the direction in which the world's affairs shall move on for many future generations. We may have ages of priesthood or of voluntaryism, according as the dissenters of this present day shall act. State-church principles may be transplanted to, and acclimated in, every soil under heaven; or they may be killed and extirped for ever. The result is dependent upon the complete evolution of truth in the existing crisis. The destinies of the world may be said to hang upon the fidelity and energy of British nonconformists, and their conduct in relation to their principles during the next few years will probably settle the question whether national establishments of religion shall become universal, or whether they shall soon cease to be known, save as a matter of history.

It is impossible, therefore, to exaggerate the importance of inducing among dissenters, as speedily as may be, a healthy tone of thought and action in relation to this subject. The practical worth of all which may be accomplished by our religious philanthropy will be decided by the issue of this one question—Whether the piety we are instrumental in creating shall be taught to rely upon itself, or to evoke in its support the power of the magistrate. If we can excite correct feeling at home, we have no fear for the permanence and progress of what we are attempting abroad. If we cherish indifference here, then we may soon bid farewell to all prospects, at least for years to come, of the world's improvement.

STOKE NEWINGTON.—On Wednesday, the 7th inst., a vestry was held in this parish, to make a rate for repayment of a portion of the principal and of the interest upon monies borrowed in the year 1828, under 58 Geo. III. cap. 45, sec. 59. It is there expressly stated that not less than one-twentieth of the principal as well as the interest shall be raised every year, thus providing for the liquidation of the debt within twenty years, and thus of necessity forbidding the raising of more than one-twentieth. The churchwardens have failed to do this; indeed some years have passed without any rate at all. The provisions of the act not having been complied with, the laying of a rate has been opposed from year to year. Now, to crown all, the churchwardens ask for a 7d. rate, to repay money which they say was due on the 10th of July last; thus not only asking for one-tenth instead of one-twentieth of the principal, but also making a retrospective rate. They at the same time ask for more money, by £80 to £100, than, by their own showing, they require. Under these circumstances an amendment was moved, deprecating church rates in general, and proposing a plan to raise the money without having recourse to a rate; this was rejected by the Chairman as irrelevant. Another amendment was then moved for an adjournment for three months, to allow the churchwarden to bring forward a corrected estimate. This was lost by 15 to 18; thus showing that if those who believe church rates to be unjust and iniquitous, would but put their shoulders to the wheel, and support those who feel bound, whenever such a demand is made, to resist it, they might, at any rate in this instance, have come off victoriously. A poll was demanded, which was to take place on Tuesday and Wednesday. On Monday evening a meeting of the ratepayers and opponents of church rates generally was held, when Thomas Maughan, Esq., of Stamford hill, was called to the chair. It was stated that Mr Jefferson, pastor of the independent church, would have been present, but for a previous engagement; also other friends, whose hearts were with the meeting. The chairman having opened the proceedings, Mr Aveling, of Kingsland chapel, in an eloquent speech, moved the following resolution:—

"That this meeting, whilst it recognises to the fullest extent the claim of pure and undefiled religion upon the voluntary support of all men, cannot too strongly reprobate the attempt

to support any system of religion by compulsory exactions, and declares its conviction of the essential injustice and iniquity of the present system of church rates, as being opposed to the divine precepts of our holy Redeemer, who declared that his kingdom was not of this world, and calculated to stir up a spirit of discord and animosity amongst those who would otherwise live together in unity and peace."

It was seconded by Mr Homan, and carried unanimously. Mr Dixon moved the second resolution, as follows:—

"That the demand made by the churchwardens for a seven-penny rate is oppressive and unjust, inasmuch as it is clearly shown such rate, with the £116 now in hand, would raise from £80 to £100 more than is necessary to make up the amount required; and this meeting pledges itself to use every endeavour to defeat the attempt now made to impose unjust taxes upon the parishioners, and to this end recommend the support of the amendment now before the ratepayers;"

which was seconded by Mr Burgess, and supported by Mr Taylor. The secretary of the Anti-church-rate Association then brought the society under the notice of the meeting; when Mr Pocock moved, in a speech replete with honest sentiment and deep feeling, the third resolution, as follows:—

"That this meeting receives with satisfaction the information of the existence of an Anti-church-rate Association for this parish, and pledges itself to aid the association in its endeavours to get rid of imposts so oppressive as church rates, and would therefore recommend all the opponents of church rates to enroll themselves members of the association forthwith."

This was seconded by Mr Wilson, of West Hackney, who, after detailing some of the proceedings of the West Hackney Association, and encouraging the meeting with some account of the success they had met with, denounced all religious establishments, and commanded to the support of all present the British Anti-state-church Association; thus affording another proof that, by pressing the question of church rates upon the attention of the ratepayers, churchmen do much towards the ultimate severance of the church from the state. Thanks having been voted to the chairman, and several individuals having engaged to attend and check the poll, the meeting separated. Some amusement was afforded by the production of a notice for taking the poll, in which it was stated that the churchwardens had moved for the rate, to repay money borrowed under 58 Geo. III. cap. 59, which act appears to have provided for the re-payment of arrears for clothing the militia, and for re-paving the town of Aberdeen.—Correspondent.

IMPORTANT ECCLESIASTICAL DECISION.—The Bishop of Exeter sat on Tuesday, the 30th ult., in the chapter-house of Exeter cathedral, to give judgment in the case of Mr James Frederick Todd, vicar of Liskeard, under the Church Discipline act (3 and 4 Victoria). The facts (according to the *Exeter Flying Post*) were these:—Mr B. H. Lyne, of Liskeard, having died, the vicar, having heard that he died in a state of intoxication, omitted from the burial-service the words "as our hope is this our brother doth." Afterwards, on ascertaining that he had been misinformed as to the state in which Mr Lyne had died, he expressed his sorrow for the pain he had inflicted on the survivors by hinting at the fate of the deceased in the other world. The Bishop observed, that the retraction and sorrow of the vicar were creditable to him; but still his conduct was unjustifiable, for

"Even if the deceased had died in a state of intoxication, however his minister may have lamented it—however it may have impaired the hope of his being admitted to rest in Christ—yet it ought not, on just consideration of the terms of the Christian covenant, to have extinguished that hope, much less to have induced him to proclaim, or even to suggest, the extinction of it."

"God, when he vouchsafes to regenerate by baptism, vouchsafes also to give forgiveness of all sins to those who continue in the state in which they have been placed by baptism. Presumptuous and unrepented sin does indeed forfeit that state, but, thanks be to God, not sin of infirmity; and whether in the case of death under intoxication the sin was presumptuous and unrepented, or a sin of infirmity, consistent with a lively though it may be languid faith, it is not for man to pronounce."

"To hold the contrary—to assert for the priesthood a right to judge in every case of the final condition of the deceased—would be to claim a power of the keys above that to which papal Rome ever dared to aspire, and which this reformed church, while it maintains the just authority of its priests for edification, not for destruction, hath always most strongly repudiated. Where would such a tyranny, if once endured, be content to stop? By the same right—if it were a right—by which this clergyman took upon him to decide that this deceased died in a state of intoxication, and excluded him, therefore—or seemed to have excluded him—from the hope of a Christian, he and every other clergyman might assume to judge of every other deceased, whether he died in any other sin, and was to be denounced, in the last solemn office over his mortal remains, as cut off from the body of Christ, and from the blessed inheritance of all who die in the Lord."

His lordship expressed his belief that Mr Todd had not "intended to claim for himself so enormous and unchristian an authority," but had simply fallen into a "temporary and pardonable misapprehension of his right and duty, as one entrusted with 'the

care of the souls of his parishioners;" and being the first case of the kind that had presented itself under the new law, he would pass upon the vicar the lenient sentence of fourteen days' suspension, viz., from August 4th to 17th inclusive. The vicar also to pay the costs of the proceedings.

**THE BISHOP OF EXETER AND THE TOLERATION ACT.**—Mr James Shore, an ordained clergyman of the church of England, was, some time since, prevented preaching at the Bridgetown chapel, Totnes (the Duke of Somerset's chapel), and that the chapel had been since registered under the 52 G. III. c. 155, by directions of the Duke of Somerset, and that Mr Shore, having taken the oaths as a dissenting minister, had recommenced officiating in the chapel, using the forms of the church of England. On Tuesday, the 6th of August, a commission sat at the Seven Stars inn, in Totnes, to hear complaints against Mr Shore made by the Bishop of Exeter, because, since his license had been withdrawn, and after he had been served with a monition from the bishop, he had continued to preach and perform other duties as a clergyman. The commissioners were Mr Chancellor Martin, Archdeacon Froude (father of S. Froude), Mr G. M. Coleridge, and two other clergymen. Mr Barnes (the bishop's secretary), and three clerks were present. Mr Shore was attended by several clergymen, by the Duke of Somerset's steward, and by a very respectable body of gentlemen, members of his congregation. He was, at first, without any legal assistance; but, subsequently, Mr Windcote, assisted by Mr Cuning, appeared for him. A protest against the jurisdiction was delivered in, on the grounds that, having taken the oaths, and the chapel being duly registered, Mr Shore was within and protected by the Toleration act and the 52 G. III. c. 155. The bishop's secretary had prepared written depositions, and, what was more barefaced, written admissions to be made by Mr Shore, into which, if he had been entrapped, the whole question would have been decided. The question was, however, brought at last to this narrow issue: Can a person who has been ordained by a bishop of the church of England, but whose licensee has been recalled by the bishop, and who holds no church preferment, who takes the oath under the Toleration act of the 52 Geo. III. c. 155, and preaches in a chapel registered under those acts, be punished by the ecclesiastical courts for so doing? It was contended, for Mr Shore, that he could not—that the Toleration act was actually passed to protect some who had been clergymen, and had seceded at the passing of the Act of Uniformity. The commissioners adjourned the court for a fortnight, in order to take the opinions of several ecclesiastical and common lawyers.

**ECCLESIASTICAL EXCLUSIVENESS.**—The following is a copy of a notice which appeared on the doors of one of the metropolitan churches last week. It affords a good illustration of the exclusive manner in which the "poor man's church" dispenses benefits which were intended for all. The distribution referred to arises from a bequest which was made to the poor of the parish, irrespective of their religious opinions:—"Saint Mary Somerset and Saint Mary Mountaw. Distribution of bread on and after the 1st of September next. Poor families attending the service of this church will be supplied with bread on the Sunday, but not otherwise. Parishioners must send in their names to the rector for approval, by the clerk or sextoness."

**NEW ECCLESIASTICAL ARRANGEMENTS, SHEFFIELD.**—Many of the parishioners of Sheffield will be surprised to learn that without their consent, or even their knowledge, arrangements are commenced to divide the parish of Sheffield into twenty-four or twenty-five new parishes, each with a church and a clergyman, endowed with at least £150 a-year, each entitled to Easter dues, fees for burials, marriages, &c., in his district; yet though relieving the present incumbent of twenty-four twenty-fifths of his duties, compensating him and his successors for the loss of fees and emoluments. Here is an astounding and an ingenious plan! We have heard great complaints that all the professions as well as all the trades are overstocked. But if measures like this can be carried out—if the populous parishes can be split into twenty-fives, leaving the existing clergy a twenty-fifth of the work, yet their full amount of income—what a flocking there will be into this enlarged field! —*Sheffield Independent.*

**THE PROTESTANT DECLARATION.**—A declaration of attachment to the church of England, and of disavowal of tractarianism, has been signed by 2328 clergymen of the establishment. The whole number of clergy in England and Wales is about 16,000.

**PUSEYISM IN IRELAND.**—At the triennial visitation, in Limerick cathedral, on Saturday, Dr Whately, archbishop of Dublin, directed that a reading-desk, moved convenient to a communion-table, should be restored to its former place, as his grace was against even the appearance of innovation in the interior economy of the church, which might be supposed to savour of tractarian or Puseyite discipline.

**DISRUPTION IN THE SYNOD OF NOVA SCOTIA.**—Of the twenty ministers connected with this church, twelve have declared for the Free church, and eight for the Residuary.

**SEIZURES FOR CHURCH RATES.**—A short time ago several parties in Derby were dragged before the magistrates for nonpayment of church rates. The magistrates, having no alternative, made an order, and warrants of distress were issued, and property seized. We have now lying before us written particulars of these seizures, the items of which we submit for the edification of the zealous lovers of compulsory exactions in aid of the wealthiest church in

Christendom. The parties against whom warrants were issued are, Mr Stevenson, draper; Mr Cholerton, grocer; and Mr Etches, boot and shoemaker:—

Amount of Rate.	Value of Property seized.
s. d.	£ s. d.
Mr Stevenson .....	19 8 ..... 2 12 0
Mr Cholerton .....	4 10 ..... 2 2 3
Mr Etches .....	4 44 ..... 3 6 9

The goods thus forcibly taken were—from Mr Stevenson, superfine black cloth; from Mr Cholerton, 43lbs of sugar, worth 9d. per lb., sold at 7d., and 6 brushes, value 10s., sold for 5s.; from Mr Etches, various lots of boots and shoes, value £3 6s. 9d., sold for £1 11s. We have a list of the purchasers, but as they were principally churchwardens, constables, criers, and boatmen, it is not worth while publishing them. To show how ingeniously the law is framed for augmenting the vexatious proceedings against conscience, we have only to supply the following bill of particulars of the several items which each of the objectors had to pay:—

s. d.	
Summons .....	
Order for ditto.....	
Warrant, and serving ditto .....	
Possession of goods for 5 days..	
The oath of appraiser .....	
Appraising goods .....	
Crier .....	
<b>£1 12 0</b>	

And all this for the honour and glory of the church! we add, for the promotion of the true interests of religion?—*Derby Reporter.*

**JUSTICES' JUSTICE.—BIGOTRY RAMPANT.**—The Bicester magistrates have voluntarily placed themselves in a very awkward position, by convicting and fining a primitive Methodist preacher for a pretended breach of the new Highway act. From the facts which have been laid before us, and fully substantiated, there does not appear to be even colourable ground for a conviction. There is not one tithe of the evidence there would be to prove obstruction every hour at every corner of a street by chance passengers. The statement of our correspondent last week on this head is strictly correct: the convicted and fined criminal (!) stood in a place at which it was impossible for him to obstruct the highway—he had but five persons to hear him, and while thus engaged a certain person, whose good taste and scientific theology were outraged, sent for the constable to take him up. The preacher was put into a dirty dung cart, and taken to Bicester. The next day he was conducted to the magistrates' chambers, where he was informed that he must attend again on the following Friday. On Friday he appeared; but as it could not be proved that he and his five hearers had obstructed the highway in the village of Ambrosden, a summons was served upon him for obstructing the highway in Bicester, and he was ordered to appear again on Friday the 26th of July. He attended, and was fined 16s. and 5s. 6d. costs!! —*Oxford Chronicle.*

**BAPTISM EXTRAORDINARY.**—Within the last few days a singular occurrence took place in the parish of Walthamstow, which rests on undoubted evidence. A poor woman having been prematurely delivered of a female child, and being apprehensive of its decease before it could have the full benefit of clergy in its own parish church, requested the willing services of the Rev. Mr Dalton, one of the curates of the said parish. By some unaccountable mistake, misapprehension, or ignorance, or, it may be, by the extraordinary importance attaching to the circumstance of baptism, even in its semi-application, absorbing all sexual and other distinctions, the unconscious child was named "William," after its honoured sire. But, lo, the curate had scarcely left the cottage, when one, somewhat more skilled than the other natives of this enlightened country village, discovered that little "William" was a girl. Surprise, chagrin, hope, and despair, alternately filled the mind of mother, father, nurse, and friends. What the awful consequences would be, none dared to prognosticate, much less to express, when, fortunately, death, the leveler of all distinctions, relieved the child and the parties concerned from all the civil and portentous consequences of the sad mistake.—*Correspondent.*

**RATHER NOVEL.**—The ears of the good people of Sheffield were greeted with "something new" in the musical world, on the night of Saturday last—namely, the ringing on the bells of the parish church of "We'll not go home till morning;" "The Blue-bells of Scotland;" "Rory O'More;" the classical "Nix my dolly;" and a great variety of the most popular song tunes of the day—a rather singular way of ushering in the Sabbath withal! Had anything akin to it been enacted in connexion with a dissenting place of worship, it would, doubtless, have been deemed heinous indeed; but, being perpetrated in a steeple-house, "by law established," and, moreover, consecrated by a right reverend father in God, it will, of course, be considered perfectly laudable.—*Correspondent.*

**POOR OLD ENGLAND.**—A correspondent of the *Morning Chronicle* writes:—"A few days since I was at Baden, and at the table d'hôte of one of the hotels, an Englishman was vaunting of the free institutions of his country, when a Russian exclaimed, "What! you a free people! Do you not pack juries? have you not a parliament that in the course of twenty-four hours vote black is white and white black? and have you not a secretary of state that opens your letters? Believe me, sir, your boasted freedom is all delusion." The Englishman could not deny the truth contained in these questions, and prudently changed the conversation.

## Correspondence.

### POLICY AT ELECTIONS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR—I am far from supposing I have hit upon the one plan for uniting the people, likely to appear efficient for the purpose to all minds; but as your correspondent of Loughborough has mistaken my meaning, I shall be glad of your room for the following, I trust plain, explanation.

To me liberalism is a perfectly comprehensive word; and I hail with pleasure every species of it that promises the amelioration of mankind. I detest the bit-by-bit policy that would improve the condition of the people, so many per year, regardless of how many suffer and die before it comes to their turn. Whatever is right, just, and good, for any part of the community, is the same for all—education, an unrestricted right to the produce of the earth, and political equality. The people should no longer solicit, but demand. The moral power to do so still appears to me practicable.

Committees of each of the three sections should decide upon candidates for every constituency in England, and introduce them with as little delay as possible.

Let each constituency be canvassed, and, where a majority could be found advocating either one of the three great principles, throw the weight of the other two into it; and by this means you could secure members from and of the body of the people. At any rate, it would be an amalgamation of the people's power to lessen that of the aristocracy; and, if all the fruits did not at once blossom, there would be a greater prospect of ripening than under the present blighting atmosphere.

A concession at one place would be met by a concession at another. The League might secure a member by the aid of chartists and complete suffragists; and, if a proved majority of the latter could secure a member by the aid of the League, it might be given. Sir,

ONE OF THE PEOPLE.

### OUT-DOOR PREACHING.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

MY DEAR SIR—Is out-of-door preaching an illegal act? Has a policeman a right to come and interrupt at his pleasure, such simple acts of worship as the Saviour himself has sanctioned by his prayers and sermons, by the shores of the lake of Galilee, in the retirement of the desert, and around the declivities of the mountain? As I was preaching, last Sabbath day, by the side of a small village green, the miserable remnant of one of those beautiful plots of common land in which the poor once boasted a right, but from which they have been driven by the aristocracy of the land—I was thus interrupted. I will not enter upon the story now; perhaps this is but the beginning of the end. But tell me, do we really enjoy less liberty than the Jews? After all our boasts, are we greater slaves than they? Does the law arm the despot with power to silence us? Am I free to preach out of doors or not?

An answer will greatly oblige your sincere friend and well-wisher,

J. F. MANDENO.

Newport, Salop, July 30, 1844.

### The Complete Suffrage Movement.

Birmingham, August 12.

The Council of the National Complete Suffrage Movement met at their rooms, Waterloo street, here, this afternoon, Mr Sturge in the chair. The business transacted was mostly of a routine character.

The secretary reported that he had received a letter from Manchester inclosing a resolution passed by the Manchester Complete Suffrage Union, at their general meeting on Thursday, on the subject of the Birmingham election. To this he had sent a long reply.

MEETING AT BIRMINGHAM OF THE 346 ELECTORS WHO VOTED ON THE 13TH OF JULY LAST IN FAVOUR OF MR STURGE.

On Wednesday evening a meeting was held at the public office, Birmingham, of the 346 electors who voted on the 13th of July last for Joseph Sturge, "to consider the propriety of issuing an address to the electors of the United Kingdom, and taking such other steps as may appear necessary, to promote the great cause of political freedom." Mr Councillor J. C. Perry was called to the chair. After stating the object of the meeting, the Chairman introduced

Mr J. H. Wilson, who read the draft of an address prepared by the committee who acted on behalf of Mr Sturge during the present contest. The document was received with much applause. It is as follows:—

THE THREE HUNDRED AND FORTY-SIX ELECTORS OF THE BOROUGH OF BIRMINGHAM, WHO VOTED ON THE 13TH JULY LAST, FOR JOSEPH STURGE, ESQ., TO THE INDEPENDENT ELECTORS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

FELLOW-COUNTRYMEN—The result of the recent Birmingham election has taken the country by surprise: our place on the poll at first sight looks discouraging; nevertheless we proclaim to the world our unshaken confidence in the soundness of our position, and our firm determination to maintain the high ground of principle on which we stand. We address you now,

First.—In defence and recommendation of the course of action we have felt it our duty to pursue. The theory of representative government is based on the principle that the people are the legitimate source of power. Such has ever been the toast and sentiment of the liberal party here. Such, too, is the theory of the British constitution. Our single aim has been to reduce that theory to practice. Conscious of its truthfulness, and realising the maxim, "Salus populi suprema lex," we voted for the man who had the confidence of the people. On no other ground could we do justice to the golden rule—"Whatsoever ye would that others should do unto you, do ye even so to them." Twelve years

ago most of us had no vote. By the aid of the masses we obtained the franchise. To them it was unjustly denied. borne into power on the shoulders of the people, how could we turn round, and in the name of liberty proclaim them slaves?

The course of conduct we have felt it our duty to pursue, recommends itself to your adoption as the most effectual means of testing the sincerity of professed liberals. The true friends of liberty are those who are prepared to concede to the people their just rights. As virtue is no longer virtue when contaminated by vice, so liberty is no longer liberty when assimilated with arbitrary restriction. Six millions of our fellow-countrymen, above the age of twenty, are unenfranchised. Those men are in a state of political bondage. They have a perfect right to be free. The man who denies that right has no just claim to be considered a liberal. Hence it follows, that the "liberal interest" is the interest of those six millions of non-electors, represented by every member of the constituency who is prepared to do them justice. All others are counterfeit, and must be exposed. The conservative interest is intelligible to all, and palpably based on error. The liberal interest is easily understood, and founded on truth. Between these two interests lies a third, by some called conservative-whig; by others whig-radical. This middle party is now our dead-weight. We shall never breathe freely until that weight be removed. How can this be done?—By the independent electors in every constituency acting on the same principle as the independent electors of Birmingham have now acted. At the last general election the tories polled but ten thousand votes more than the whigs, which gave to the one faction a majority of eighty over the other. Surely the independent electors of the United Kingdom number more than ten thousand men! If so, they hold in their hands the balance of power; and with six millions of non-electors can turn the scale in favour of freedom. Justice to ourselves—justice to the people—and justice to the great cause of political freedom, demands that we should thus act. No other course of action will effectually test the sincerity of our professed friends. If they are honest, 'tis well—they will unite with us freely. If they are false, they must fall into the ranks of error, where alone they ought to stand. While false men are permitted to remain in the ranks of freedom, the cause of liberty is constantly in danger of being betrayed. Hitherto they have been spared for the sake of expediency. Hereafter they must be discharged for the sake of justice. By acting thus, we are told that we have incurred a terrible responsibility by letting in the tory. Those who say so have yet to learn, that the first duty of man is to do justly, and then leave the consequences to the overruling providence of God.

Secondly.—In reference to the position in which Birmingham has long held in the eyes of the political world, and in practical illustration of the more immediate grounds on which the contest proceeded.

From various causes, the position of Birmingham has become a most influential one. Mark the facts of our political history, and observe how our political character was formed:—

On the 6th of May, 1793, Charles Grey (now Earl Grey) presented a petition to the House of Commons, specifically praying for a substantial measure of representative reform. A motion proceeding on that petition was indignantly rejected. In 1797, and in 1800, Mr Grey repeated his motion without effect. Soon after political associations were founded by Major Cartwright, in different parts of the kingdom, under the designation of "Hampden clubs." One of these was instituted at Birmingham in the year 1815; its object being to obtain universal suffrage, vote by ballot, and annual parliaments. Next year an open air meeting was held, at which a bill of rights, embracing these principles, was adopted. After suffering the most cruel persecution at the hands of a tyrannical government, the Hampden club was abolished. In 1826, Mr Thomas Attwood attempted the formation of a political union, but failed. Various schemes of the same kind were projected during the next ten years; but it was not till the 25th of January, 1830, when the "General Political union" was formed, that Birmingham put forth her united strength. That union was the creation of a public meeting of more than ten thousand people, which lasted from ten in the morning till five in the afternoon. Its first object was "to obtain, by every just and legal means, such a reform of the Commons' House of Parliament as may ensure a real and effectual representation of the lower and middle classes of the people in that House." A petition to parliament, embodying this object, was passed. It prayed also that redress of grievances should precede the voting of supplies. At this time a bill was pending in parliament to amend the representation so far as to give additional representatives to large towns. That measure was adopted by the Union; but soon after superseded by the Reform bill of Lord John Russell, to carry which all the energies of the council were directed. On the 6th of May, 1832, a monster meeting was held on Newhall hill, and more than one hundred thousand people, with deep and solemn silence, took this pledge—"In unbroken faith, through every peril, and trial, and privation, we devote ourselves and our children to our country's cause." You know what followed—the passing of the Reform bill. By and by came disappointment and distress. Anticipating a crisis in public affairs, the Union, which had been in abeyance for five years, was revived. In 1837, the council issued a stirring address to the reformers of Great Britain and Ireland. It pronounced the Reform bill a failure—advised the people to fall back on universal suffrage, vote by ballot, annual parliaments—and

appealed to them thus:—"If you are content to abandon all your fixed principles—to forego your unquestionable rights—if you choose to give up all hope of further political improvement—if you have made up your minds that the Reform bill shall continue in future as it has hitherto been—a dead letter, instead of a living spirit—that coercion shall proceed unchecked, and bribery and corruption unexposed; in that case you may still reckon on the services of Lord John Russell and his fellow councillors." These sentiments were signed on behalf of the council by George Frederic Muntz. It was alleged by some that, if carried out, they would divide the liberal interest, and let the tories into power. To this the council emphatically replied—"Reformers, let no vain fears distract you. Our cause is the cause of truth and justice: it must and shall prevail." Then came the national petition. That able and popular document, which was subscribed by 1,280,000 people, was adopted by another great public meeting in Birmingham, on the 6th of August, 1838. Since then, public opinion has been concentrated on a still more complete and comprehensive measure of reform, comprising—the extension of the suffrage to every male citizen of twenty-one, vote by ballot, no property qualification, equal electoral districts, payment of members, and annual parliaments. That this measure still rules in the mind of Birmingham, is evident from the fact that, so recently as the 6th of March last, an enthusiastic town's meeting (the great hall being crowded) unanimously resolved that the only effectual redress for Ireland's as well as England's wrongs is to be found in the "full, fair, and free representation of the people;" and that, as a means to gain this end, the constituency should now claim from their representatives a recurrence to the ancient parliamentary principle, that "the grievances of the people should be heard and redressed before the supplies are voted." So tenaciously did Birmingham cling to the question of the suffrage, that, in opposition to the views of the Anti-corn-law League, it was maintained, by positive resolution, at the close of an anti-corn-law lecture in the Town hall, that, without the extension of the suffrage, it was hopeless to expect either total or immediate repeal.

These facts, unquestionably, prove that Birmingham had set her heart on the suffrage movement. The conclusion is, that her representatives in parliament should be thoroughly furnished for this great work. Anything short of this in their qualifications must unquestionably compromise her whole previous character, and destroy her consistency. In these circumstances a vacancy occurs in the representation of the borough. Two candidates are proposed on behalf of what is called the "liberal interest," viz.:—Joseph Sturge and William Scholefield.

In Joseph Sturge we had a living embodiment of the great principles of civil, religious, and commercial freedom; and no man could mistake the simple and truthful language in which, from time to time, his views have been announced. In William Scholefield we had no such qualification. As an alderman of the borough, twice only during the last two years had he attended the council board, and on both occasions to speak and vote against a motion to petition parliament in favour of complete suffrage. He opposed the motion on the merits, deliberately stating, that if the subject were to be fully discussed, "it would take him half-an-hour on each of five of the points to show that they were objectionable, the ballot being the only one of the six to which he could at once agree." These facts were generally known in Birmingham, and yet the very men who had previously professed themselves the devoted friends of freedom—who were parties to the democratic sentiments heretofore quoted, proposed William Scholefield in opposition to Joseph Sturge. Sincerely desirous to promote unity of action, every endeavour was made to induce them to submit the claims of William Scholefield to the judgment of a public meeting. They denied the competency of that tribunal, and contended that the electors, and the electors alone, were the proper judges in the case. Meanwhile, one of the most magnificent meetings ever held in Birmingham unanimously made choice of Joseph Sturge. This meeting took place five days previous to the election; thus affording ample time to William Scholefield and his supporters to weigh the responsibility which their position involved. At the nomination of candidates, the choice of Joseph Sturge was confirmed, while William Scholefield, out of nine thousand hands, had but fifty held up in his favour. Notwithstanding all this, he was carried through the poll. You know the result. Grieved to think that conservatism should find a home in the very cradle of liberty, we honestly deplore the return of a tory; but believing that the time has arrived when the advocates of freedom must grapple with principle, and not with party, we are not disappointed at the defeat of a whig. It is better to deal with an open and undisguised enemy, than an indefinite and undefinable friend, inasmuch as the desolating progress of error is always most successfully opposed by the direct antagonism of truth.

Independent electors of the United Kingdom! Are you prepared to adopt and carry out this course of action? If you are, then suffer us to suggest what we consider essential to its success:—

First.—Properly qualified candidates. This prerequisite is all-important. If possible, get tried men. These are not the times to take men on trust. St Stephen's is a poisonous atmosphere; the shafts of error fly thickly there; and every man you send to that House should be encased in truth. We know it is difficult to find such men; nevertheless some such may be had; and twenty would constitute an

opposition powerful enough to bring the oligarchy to terms.

Second.—The choice of candidates must be left exclusively to public meetings. To facilitate this end, it appears desirable that independent election committees should be appointed in every borough, whose constant and regular duty would be to superintend the registration, and whose special and extraordinary duty, to call public meetings on great occasions. Where it is practicable, the meeting to choose the candidate might be best called by members of the town council, as was done in Birmingham.

Thirdly.—Firm determination to carry the popular candidate through the poll. High moral courage is indispensable in the hour of trial. The Birmingham election proved this. Had every elector who voted done justice to his own convictions, as he was bound to do, we honestly believe that our numbers would have stood well. Had every elector on the roll, who did not vote, given free expression to his feelings, they would have stood better. Want of moral courage was the besetting sin of many in that hour of trial. On no ground of principle can this be excused.

Fourthly.—No compromise. So long as independent electors are found hesitating, they are in danger. From the best of motives, the best of men are oftentimes misled. Had the proposals of trimming reformers been always boldly met, they would not have been so often repeated, nor so successfully urged. Convince a man that you are in earnest, and he will deal with you as an honest man. Convince him that you are determined to maintain your ground, and he will use no dishonest means to pull you down. Therefore, our watch-word must be, "Truth," and our motto, "No compromise."

At a meeting of the 346 electors of the borough of Birmingham, who voted, on the 13th of July last, for Joseph Sturge, Esq., held at the Public office, August 7, 1844, the foregoing address was unanimously passed, and ordered to be published forthwith.

JAMES C. PERRY, CHAIRMAN.  
Birmingham, August 8, 1844.

On the motion of Mr Councillor W. H. SMITH, seconded by Mr JOSEPH CORBETT, the address was unanimously adopted.

Mr HAWKES rose to move the second resolution. It was to this effect:—

"That this meeting tenders to Joseph Sturge, Esq., the expression of its heartfelt gratitude for his exemplary conduct in standing at the call of the borough, in town's meeting assembled, as a candidate at the last election, in order that the radical electors and non-electors might have an opportunity of solemnly recording their fixed determination to vindicate, under any circumstances, their principles, and of expressing their dissent from the policy of the whig and tory factions."

Mr Hawkes made a long and able speech in support of the resolution, which the crowded state of our columns will not permit us to give.

Mr Councillor BALDWIN rose to second the resolution. He did so with very great pleasure. They were much indebted to Mr Sturge for the way in which he had acted on that occasion. He came forward when asked to do so by his fellow-townsmen, and stood his ground most manfully [cheers].

Several electors supported the resolution, which was carried amid great applause.

Mr STURGE, who had just entered the room, and was enthusiastically cheered, rose to acknowledge the vote of thanks. He could sincerely say, that he was undeserving of their thanks on that occasion; yet, next to the satisfaction he felt in the conviction that he had done his duty, did he feel pleasure in receiving the thanks of that community, and valued the votes of those three hundred and forty-six electors who had contended for principle, more than the thanks of a thousand expediency men [cheers]. He recollects making a motion, at the meeting of the borough commissioners some years ago, and could get no one to second it; the laugh of the whole fifty or sixty present was turned upon him, and yet he never left a meeting with a more pleasing conviction of having done his duty than he did at that time [hear]. And so it had been in regard to the recent contest. Although he had received the support of but a comparatively small number of the electors, he felt pleasure in the conviction that he had been in the path of duty, and that he stood there as the representative of the wants and wishes of his unenfranchised fellow-townsmen [cheers]. He was not disappointed that he had not been returned [hear, hear]. He believed he slept more soundly when the result of the election was known, than he could have done had he stood at the top of the poll; for, personally, the House of Commons was the last place he could wish to attend, and would far rather seek to obtain justice for the people among the people themselves [loud cheers]. But he held, that when a man was invited by a majority of his fellow-townsmen to become a candidate for the representation of that town, he was bound in duty to comply with the invitation, unless he could show sufficient reason for declining to stand [hear]. On that principle he had come forward at the late election. One of the speakers on his right had given them a description of the House of Commons, as it had appeared to himself. He (Mr Sturge) could say that the statement was quite correct. It was a place where few honest men could desire to go to [a laugh]. And yet, if they had ten men who would stand by William Sharman Crawford on the supply question, they could carry any measures they pleased [cheers]. In recurring to the recent election, he might observe that the comparison had been made between the number of votes polled for him at Nottingham, and the number polled at Birmingham. The question had been asked, Did not that comparison show that the principles which he represented were losing ground? In answer to this, he had to say, that, while the whigs at Nottingham polled for complete suffrage, those of Birmingham

polled for complete suffrage, those of Birmingham

polled for finality reform [hear]. Now, he was far better pleased with the case as it stood, than if he had been returned by the votes of men who had shown that they did not like his principles; and there he would state his firm conviction that they never would be in a right position until they got principle clear of party, and acted from principle alone. For acting as he had done, some of the papers had called him a "marplot" [a laugh]. In as far as party was concerned, he accepted the name. He was sorry to hear that a number of his friends had not done justice to their own convictions in the hour of trial. But they were not to be hard in judging of those who had been led astray by the cry of letting in the tory [hear]. Those men who had been thus misled, had never yet been taught the responsibility involved in giving a vote; but he did hope, now that it was seen that the independent electors of Birmingham were prepared to do their duty, that they would think rightly of the matter and not be misled again [cheers]. He was glad to see that the three hundred and forty-six had taken a decided stand on principle. They had power enough to accomplish the deliverance of Birmingham from political bondage, and it would encourage them to hear that he had received letters from various parts of the country, particularly from Scotland, heartily approving of the course they had taken, and the stand they had made [cheers]. For his own part, he would say, that there was no act which he had ever done that he could look back on with more pleasure and satisfaction; and he did believe that, with a moderate organisation, properly qualified candidates might be put up at almost every election; and if every candidate were carried through the poll, they would soon show that justice must be done to the people [cheers]. Until they could thus prove to the middle party that they (the suffragists) were in earnest, they would never be in a right position. He should be sorry to give unnecessary offence to any one, and his endeavour had always been to act on this principle; but it was evident, from the feeling which some of his friends had shown to him since the election, that he had struck a chord, the sound of which made them uneasy [hear, hear, and a laugh]. They must persevere in this course of action. In America, the "liberty party," which sought the abolition of black slavery, had increased from 6,000 to 60,000, in consequence of having taken their stand on the same principle at elections; and so it would be with those electors in England who now wished to do justice to the people, if they kept their shoulders at the wheel [cheers]. In the event of a general election, he was not so anxious that they should attempt to get a majority holding their views, as that they might get men of principle returned [hear, hear]. A few such men, on whom they could depend, would be much more valuable in the hour of trial than a large number in whom they could not place implicit confidence [great cheering].

Mr MORGAN said that, on a careful examination of the poll books, it had been ascertained that a very large proportion of those who had polled towards the close of the day were notoriously the supporters of Mr Sturge, but had been carried away with the foolish cry that if they did not vote for Mr Scholfield they would let in the tory. The numbers who polled thereupon, for the respective candidates who were unsuccessful, afforded no correct index to the real state of feeling which prevailed in Birmingham, and which would develop itself in a more satisfactory manner on future occasions of the kind [cheers].

A resolution was then passed, appointing a committee to take what steps might be considered necessary to carry out the great principles on which the electors had proceeded. A vote of thanks was passed to Mr Perry, for his excellent conduct in the chair, and the meeting separated.

**THE DUNCOMBE TESTIMONIAL.**—A meeting of the electors of the borough of Finsbury took place on Monday evening, at White Conduit house, for the purpose of contributing towards the Duncombe testimonial. Mr Nicholson was in the chair, supported by Mr Hewitt and Mr Bell, and several of the other influential electors of the borough of Finsbury. Several speeches were made and resolutions passed, expressing their confidence in the conduct of Mr Thomas Slingaby Duncombe, and that he was well worthy of their approbation, and of something more, and that the borough of Finsbury ought to come forward and do their utmost in furtherance of the testimonial intended to be presented to their worthy representative. A vote of thanks to the chairman was agreed to, and the meeting separated. A subscription was entered into at the door of the tavern.

**THE TWO VACANT SEATS.**—Mr Thomas Wyse, M.P. for the city of Waterford, has given formal notice to the House of Commons, that he will move, early next session, that the two seats recently rendered vacant by the disfranchisement of the borough of Sudbury be transferred to such county or counties in Ireland as shall, from its population and the present state of its representation, &c., appear most fit to return additional members to parliament. The said two seats have now been unfilled for nearly three sessions, and, consequently, the number of members is reduced at present to 656.

**HOURS OF BUSINESS.**—A numerous and highly respectable meeting of tradesmen and others was held at the Assembly Rooms, Prince's street, on Tuesday evening, we rejoice to say, those present resolved to close their shops at seven o'clock during the winter months, and eight in summer and autumn. We trust the public will support the tradesmen in this measure of

## Imperial Parliament.

### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

#### PETITIONS FOR THE WEEK.

Insolvent Debtors bill, against, 3.  
Registration of Electors (Ireland) bill, against, 1.  
Charitable Bequests (Ireland) bill, against, 14.  
Union with Ireland, for repeal of, 85.  
Roman Catholic Penal Acts Repeal bill, against, 2.

#### BILL READ A FIRST TIME.

Parochial Settlement bill.

#### CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE.

Roman Catholic Penal Acts Repeal bill.

#### BILLS READ A THIRD TIME.

Insolvent Debtors bill.  
Roman Catholic Penal Acts Repeal bill.

#### DEBATES.

Wednesday, August 7th.

#### FOREIGN POLICY OF MINISTERS.

The first order of the day having been read, Viscount PALMERSTON made his annual valedictory speech on the foreign policy of government. The system of foreign policy adopted by government appeared to him to be one of unlimited concession abroad and of resistance at home. The first concession was that to America, of the disputed territory on the north-eastern boundary, which, instead of leading to harmony, resulted in another claim by the United States to the Oregon territory. The spirit was the same in the concessions to France: the Spanish government were counseled to submit to degradation and insult in the Salvandi and Lesseps affairs; the French in 1830 were allowed to keep possession of Algiers; and the arrangement of France to take the protectorate of Tahiti, which we had declined, was acquiesced in. In fact, the line of policy undertaken by government was founded on two leading principles—one was, to obtain temporary quiet, without regarding the sacrifices which might be made to secure it; and the other was, to shape their course, not with reference to the interests of their own country, but merely considering what might be its bearing on their position with respect to other states. It had happened to the late government to be sometimes in a minority in the House of Commons; but among the great powers of Europe its general policy was supported by a large majority. What might be the influence of the present government he would not say; but he was anxious to draw the attention of the country to the results already visible. He denied that what are called the "war parties" in several countries have any effect on their respective governments. He would contend that, even under the present government, England was too powerful not to make any nation pause before it entered into a war with her, except on just grounds and in its own defence; but, having laid down its ultimatum, it would not be satisfactory to the country if it receded on any other than fair and open reasons. Recurring to the subject of Tahiti, he maintained that, although Mr Pritchard's consular functions were necessarily suspended, he retained his commission and character as Queen Victoria's consul; and he finished by exhorting government to make no concession which would tend to the dis-honour of the country.

Sir ROBERT PEEL replied; observing that Lord Palmerston had not had the courtesy to give notice of his attack on the whole foreign policy of government.

The noble lord's speech seemed to him to have been prepared for the purpose of supplying some omission in his former speeches, and of pronouncing a panegyric on himself—though, truth to say, it did not seem that any blank of that kind had remained to be filled up in his two preceding speeches; for they, like the one just now spoken, were not at all wanting in his own praise [laughter]. The assertion that our present policy was one of concession abroad and resistance at home might appear finely antithetical and high-sounding; but he gave it a flat denial.

He proceeded to vindicate Lord Ashburton's mission; appealing to the thanks voted to that nobleman on the motion of Mr Hume. The war party in France condemn M. Guizot for his concessions to England. As to Algiers, Lord Palmerston himself had acquiesced in the French occupation; and in Spain, Espartero's fall was precisely owing to the popular belief that he was the too fast friend of the British government, and was receiving support from it. Into the question of Tahiti he did not think it proper to enter; but he maintained that there never was a time when the name and honour of the British government stood higher than at present.

Mr FORSTER referred to a memorial from some British subjects, complaining that the French, by taking possession of the Gaboons, on the coast of Africa, had interrupted the free trade with the natives which this country had enjoyed from time immemorial.

Sir ROBERT PEEL said that the statements of the memorial were inaccurate; but the facts should be inquired into.

#### MEDICAL REFORM.

Sir J. GRAHAM obtained leave to bring in a bill, the object of which was the better regulation of medical practice throughout the United Kingdom. He proposed that the bill should be read a first time and printed, his object being that it should be taken into consideration early in the next session of parliament. He proposed to establish a council of health and of medical education, in direct connection with the executive government. This council is to sit periodically in London, and to be composed of eleven *ex officio* members, and six members to be chosen by the crown. Under the directions of the council a registry is to be kept of all the physi-

cians, surgeons, and licentiate apothecaries duly qualified to practise, and after the expiration of one year this list, and this list alone, is to be regarded as the only proper legal authority of the practitioner. He did not propose to put down quacks by means of penalties, because the pleasure was as great in being cheated as to cheat, but he proposed to confine the civil and military public medical appointments to such persons as should be registered under this bill. He proposed to repeal the apothecaries act, and to do away with pharmaceutical apprenticeships, and he intended to abolish all exclusive or local privileges, and to admit the practitioners of England, Ireland, and Scotland, to practise indiscriminately in all parts of the kingdom. The power of the existing seventeen licensing bodies is to be retained so far as the granting letters testimonial, which are to be received by the council of health as sufficient to warrant the registry of the party applying without any examination.

Mr MACAULAY seconded the motion, without pledging himself to the details of the measure. He hoped that it would be brought forward early next session.

Mr WARBURTON concurred in the general principles.

Mr GALLY KNIGHT feared that the medical body would disapprove of the despotic character of the council of health.

Mr WAXLEY strongly objected to the portions of the bill which retained powers to the present licensing bodies, against whom the whole profession have for the last fifteen years exclaimed. Sir James Graham had been earwagged. But, with the opposition of the 30,000 medical men in the country, it would be impossible to pass the bill.

Thursday, August 8th.

#### LAW OF SETTLEMENT.

Sir JAMES GRAHAM moved for leave to bring in a bill to amend the law of settlement.

The importance of the subject is shown by its statistics: within the last year 12,000 orders of removal had been made for English paupers, affecting 30,000 persons, and 7,000 for Scotch and Irish, affecting 15,000 persons; and, in the whole, 19,000 orders of removal had been issued, under which 45,000 persons had been removed. What an amount of human suffering was involved in those figures! With respect to existing settlements, he proposed that, where they had been ascertained by orders of removal and fixed, they should not be disturbed. The existing acts on the subject, however, would be repealed. Settlements are now gained by marriage, birth, apprenticeship, renting a tenement, paying rates, serving an office, and lastly (though this is disputed), by hiring at service. Under the bill, settlement would only be gained by birth; the register of birth or baptism being received in evidence. In default of such proof, the settlement of the father, or, in default of that, of the mother, would become evidence. No married woman would be removed from her husband's settlement during his life; no woman living with her husband at the time of his death would be removed from his settlement; no legitimate child under sixteen from its father's, nor illegitimate child from its mother's settlement; no man, unconvicted of felony or misdemeanour, who had ordinarily worked or resided in the parish for five years; no sick person who had not received relief for forty days consecutively. Describing the rules for removal, Sir James proposed that Irish and Scotch paupers, if removed, should be conveyed to the places as near as possible to their places of birth and residence. Persons improperly obtaining removal orders would be liable to the expenses.

Mr HAWES, Mr BROTHERTON, Mr WYSE, and Mr WAXLEY, received the bill with general approval; promising consideration of it during the recess. It was read a first time; to be read a second time that day three months.

Friday, August 9th.

#### STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

When Sir ROBERT PEEL moved the adjournment of the House to the 5th of September, Mr SHEIL started up—

He assumed that the adjournment must be intended to prevent Mr O'Connell's undergoing a needless six months' imprisonment, should the judges report to the Lords, on their next meeting, that the verdict delivered by the jury—exclusively protestant—was illegal; but if it proved so, the past imprisonment must have been in its degree unjust; and he asked whether it would not be the more wise and generous policy, instead of waiting to see if the lawyers would pick the lock of Richmonde penitentiary, were ministers at once to unbar the prison doors and give Mr O'Connell back to the Irish people. The state of Ireland, though tranquil on the surface, was unsafe, and needed a deep and meditative forecast; and he exhorted the minister to conciliate in time.

He called on Sir Robert Peel to think of the time when the merits of his administration would be tried, not by the numbers in the Old Lobby as compared with the numbers in the New, but by considerations of generosity and magnanimity.

Mr WYSE followed up this appeal.

There was no response; and Lord JOHN RUSSELL himself now rose. He turned the discussion to a sketchy review of the session and the condition of the country. He began by disavowing the unfair example set at the close of former sessions, in the circulation of a pamphlet purporting to be a speech of Lord Lyndhurst, and reviewing the legislation of the session to enumerate the government measures which had failed: unfair, because no government can so control the legislature as to insure success for all its measures; and unfair especially towards the last government, to whom some two hundred peers, whose titles were created during the long rule of the tories, were opposed. But he thought it useful to glance at the state of the country; which he did at some length.

Nothing had been done to ameliorate the condition of Ireland: the repeal meetings indeed were no longer held; but the affections of the people had not been won.



NONCONFORMIST SOCIETY OF FRIENDS.

After eight months of impunity, Mr O'Connell was brought to trial, and condemned by a jury from which every man of his own religion was excluded, though it comprised several violent protestants. Government lately showed symptoms of paying more regard to the feelings of the Irish people; he hoped that next session they would fulfil the promise of the union—that Ireland should be placed on an equality with England. They could give no better pledge of such enlarged views than the liberation of Mr O'Connell—who has won, by great services, the confidence and gratitude of his countrymen—who is now sixty-nine years of age, and approaches the close of his political career. There is among both the majority and minority in Ireland a disposition to carp at measures intended for the public good, from a natural distrust of the honesty of those who are regarded as having been parties to the oppression of that country. So full an opportunity for securing the affection of the people does not often occur. The state of our foreign relations was such as to make this subject both a delicate and an important one. With Sir Robert Peel's pledges respecting Morocco and Tahiti he was quite satisfied; but never since 1815, except after the French and Belgian revolutions of 1830 and the Syrian campaign of 1840, had our foreign relations been in a state to require so much anxiety. The more necessary to possess every element of strength; he alludes less to the navy than to internal union. Another topic must soon force itself upon their attention—the condition of the people of England. The people are ill provided with the necessities and comforts of life: and it is not to be denied that the condition of the labouring class has not advanced in proportion to the progress of the higher and middle classes. If government, next session, did not introduce some comprehensive measure, at least to remove restrictions on the labouring class, he would ask the House to consent to some new measure, or to go into committee. It is not to be done by repealing the poor law and bestowing a national alms, but by enabling the people to obtain, what some of them claim, "a fair day's wages for a fair day's work." The whole subject of import duties ought to be revised; and the corn law ought to be considered, with due regard to agricultural interests. Since 1815, the county rates and malt tax have been increased; with a surplus revenue agriculturists might be relieved in that direction. Emigration, too, would be very serviceable to the working classes. It would be better if matters of legislation were brought forward earlier in the session, and if members, instead of sitting so long in parliament, could attend to local interests.

Lord John wound up by saying—"I have not made these observations in party-spirit, or in any spirit of hostility to honourable gentleman opposite. My views differ from theirs on many subjects, and I do not think measures wise which they regard as such; but there are many subjects on which we might agree, and by which the interests of the country might be promoted. I have stated my views of what these subjects are, and how they might be treated."

Sir ROBERT PEEL acknowledged the absence of party spirit in Lord John Russell's speech, and admitted that it contained much truth; but he repelled the implied censure, and boldly claimed unusual credit for the work of the session. He admitted the disadvantage of long sessions—condemned by Mr Burke as detaining members from their local duties; and none could be more interested in abridging the attendance than ministers with laborious official avocations. He thought that the practice might be got over by a co-operation of political parties. He heard with regret Lord John's vague intimations about improving the condition of the people; raising impracticable expectations—almost the expectation that a committee of the whole House could give the people "a fair day's wages for a fair day's work." The increase of population in all countries creates difficulties which it is not easy for legislation to remove. Lord John seemed to think that there ought to be protection for agriculture. [Lord JOHN RUSSELL—"I always stated that."] He was glad to hear that assurance; but he did not wish to purchase the good will of the agriculturists by giving any pledge about the malt tax, or such remissions: he must reserve a discretion on that point. As Lord John would not review the measures of the session, he would. There never was a session of more important and efficient legislation:—

The Poor law had been amended; a large sum, ultimately to be £1,240,000, had been saved to the country annually by the reduction of the three-and-a-half per cents; the currency had been placed on a safe footing by the Bank Charter bill; joint stock banks had been regulated; the Insolvent law had been amended, with a final blow at imprisonment for debt; the Dissenters' Chapels bill will put an end to endless litigation; presbyterian marriages in Ireland had been put on a proper foundation; the bill respecting charitable donations and bequests would produce the best results; the principle of prescription had been applied to the duchy of Cornwall, with great advantage to the property and to the tenantry; building in the metropolis had been regulated; altogether, a much more satisfactory account than others had been able to give of former sessions.

He would not be provoked to discuss the subject of the proceedings in Africa. As to Ireland, the adjournment was partly, but not entirely, owing to the writ of error. He denied that government had sought to entrap the culprits into further offence by not suppressing the repeal meetings sooner; though he would not enter into the reasons, in the absence of those concerned. He denied also that Mr O'Connell had not had a fair trial; and he should be ashamed of himself to disclaim personally vindictive feeling. With respect to the exercise of the royal prerogative, which had been referred to, he would maintain a perfect silence. It was not just to say that nothing had been done for Ireland:—

Government had entered upon an inquiry of the deepest importance, in which precipitate legislation was most to be avoided—the relation of landlord and tenant; the principle of equality with the English franchise had been asserted and carried out in the Municipal Corporation bill; the Charitable Bequests bill showed that govern-

ment had no hostile intentions towards Ireland; and Maynooth would receive attention during the recess. He regretted the party animosities and jealousies in Ireland; but he had full confidence that, if occasion should arrive, the people would join with the people of this country to support the crown, the interests and the integrity of the empire. Lord John Russell did not contrast the present with the former condition of the country; but, said Sir Robert, "I cannot help drawing a comparison between the condition of the country at this day with the state of the country in 1841. Taking into consideration the condition of the revenue, of the trade, of the industry of the country, it forms a strong and favourable contrast with what it has been at any former period. It is not my wish to draw any invidious comparisons; but I maintain that, with respect to the revenue, trade, enjoyment, and general comfort of the country, there has been a great improvement during the last few years; and, without being too sanguine, there exist evidences of advancing prosperity and contentment" [much cheering].

Others said a few words. Mr BELLEW demanded Mr O'Connell's release. Mr HUME demanded that, and equal taxation to relieve the poor of the country. Mr BAILIE COCHRANE wanted further amendment of the poor law, and a bill to regulate wages. Mr VILLELIERS would not provide for pauperism, but prevent it; protesting against the opinion, common to Sir Robert and Lord John, that there are special burdens on land; and advocating abolition of the "bread tax." Colonel SIRTHORP praised the business done this session; and congratulated the country on the flourishing state of the harvest and the decline of the Anti-corn-law League. Lord EBRINGTON bantered the colonel with his forgiving disposition in applauding the ministerial measures which he had so generally opposed.

Some technicalities disposed of, the House adjourned to the 5th of September.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

**INSOLVENT DEBTORS BILL.**—On Wednesday, on the third reading of this bill, Mr Spooner moved that the operation of the act as to abolishing imprisonment for small debts be postponed until the 25th of March next; on the ground that it would abruptly destroy the credit of the poorer classes, that it was an *ex post facto* enactment, and that the shorter interval would be harshly used by creditors. Sir James Graham argued that the longer interval would give the greater scope for cruel treatment of debtors; and eventually the amendment was withdrawn. The bill passed.

**NEWSPAPER STAMPS.**—The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER on Thursday intimated that, in consequence of numerous frauds, the return of newspaper stamps will be made up hereafter in gross, exhibiting the entire amount, instead of in detail for each paper.

**PUBLIC EXECUTIONS.**—On Thursday, Mr BROTHERTON asked whether government intended next session to introduce a bill for abolishing or diminishing capital punishments? Reading an account of the fatal accident during the execution at Nottingham, he again asked whether it was intended to put a stop to those disgraceful exhibitions? Sir JAMES GRAHAM answered, that government had no intention to introduce any measure on the subject. The accident in question had nothing to do with the moral effect of executions: it might have occurred at a horse-race, or even, through panic, in a chapel.

**PAYMENT OF CLERKS OF ASSIZE AND OTHERS.**—On Thursday, Sir JAMES GRAHAM introduced a bill, to stand over till next session, for regulating the duties and payments of clerks of assize, clerks of the peace, magistrates' clerks, and other officers of the same kind. Among other provisions, fixed salaries will be substituted for fees in payment of clerks of the peace and magistrates' clerks, calculated on the average receipt of fees for seven years; and magistrates will be obliged to hold their petty sessions in public and at fixed places.

**CAPTAIN WARNER'S INVENTION.**—Captain PECHELL said, on Thursday, that he had received the model of a vessel from Shoreham, the port from which the ship destroyed by Captain Warner had sailed; and from that it appeared the ship had ropes fitted on board her, fastened from stem to stern; and after the process it appeared that from 140 to 200 fathoms of line had been thrown overboard from the steam-vessel applied to the barque blown up; showing that a direct communication had been established between the steam-vessel and the ship. He wished to know if government could explain or confirm the suspicions that the whole affair was humbug! Sir R. PEEL said, he could neither confirm nor deny the report; but the published correspondence would justify his caution in not giving £400,000 or even £100,000 for the blowing up of a single vessel, without having had it examined pretty closely beforehand. On Friday Lord INGESTRE explained that the suspicious tackle alluded to by Captain Pechell, only consisted of the towing ropes and apparatus to save them, as they were too valuable to be lost.

**DISTURBANCES AT DOMINICA.**—On Friday, in answer to an inquiry respecting the disturbances which have broken out in Dominica, Lord STANLEY stated, that the colonial office was as yet without distinct information; that he believed the origin of the outbreak to have been connected with the taking of the census; and that he should probably be able, before the prorogation of parliament, to lay on the table more complete information. He added the important intimation, that a better constitution of the judicial bench in the West India islands had long been with him an object of anxiety; and that, having at length obtained the assent of all the legislatures, he hoped to be able, before the next session, to establish a central court for all the islands.

#### HOUSE OF LORDS.

*Thursday, August 8th.*

**TAHITI.**—The Marquis of Normanby presented a petition from a public meeting at Leeds, complaining of the conduct of the French in Tahiti, and praying the House to adopt measures for insuring the safety of the protestant mission in that island. The Earl of Aberdeen said, that since the French government had, last year, given assurances that the British missionaries should enjoy perfect freedom and security, he believed they had had no cause of complaint. Alluding to the war party in France, he added, that he knew that party to entertain the desire of pushing matters to extremity; but the justice and moderation of the demands of England led him to entertain the hope that the present subjects of discussion between the two countries would not lead to any disastrous consequences. He used the word "justice," lest "moderation" might be misconstrued. He had no doubt that a just, conciliatory, and moderate tone would prevent any disastrous results arising from occurrences which had taken place without the participation of either government.

The business was all routine, various measures being carried through their respective stages, and several conferences having been held with the Commons, with the view of adjusting differences which have arisen on amendments made on several bills. The Poor Law Amendment bill and the Insolvent Debtors bill were amongst the measures which were finally disposed of and passed.

*Friday, August 9th.*

The business this day was altogether technical. The Lords agreed, but not without sharp words and a division, to certain amendments in the Courts of Law (Ireland) bill made by the Commons; a controversy which might have made some delay in the adjournment. Their lordships also adopted an address, urging the Executive to expedite the building of the new houses of parliament.

In answer to the Marquis of Clanricarde, Lord WHARNCLIFFE said the report of the Post office committee was not sufficiently long on the table to enable the government to give it due consideration; he was therefore unable to state whether they contemplated any alteration in the existing law.

In answer to Lord Campbell, who complained of the unnecessary length of time for which the House was about to adjourn, the Lord CHANCELLOR said Mr Justice Pattison could not return from the circuit till the 28th inst., and it was necessary there should be some time for deliberation before the judges were called upon to deliver their judgment in the Irish state trials.

Early in the day, the royal assent was given by commission to the Poor Law Amendment bill, Roman Catholic Penal Acts Repeal bill, Metropolitan Buildings bill, Insolvent Debtors bill, Railways bill, Turnpike Trusts (South Wales) bill, Marriages (Ireland) bill, Charitable Donations and Bequests (Ireland) bill, Savings Banks bill, and some others public and private.

The bills on the table were read a third time and passed, and the house adjourned till the 2nd September.

#### General News.

##### FOREIGN.

###### TAHITI.

The following summary of the accounts published in the French papers of the recent events in Tahiti, with the independent and excellent comments on the same, are from the *Times* of Thursday:—

The accounts from Tahiti which have been received by the French papers are of great interest, inasmuch as they serve to corroborate and complete the statements which were first published by ourselves.

Although the French papers all assume that the acts of insubordination and hostility directed against the French authorities in Tahiti originated with the English agents there, it is evident from every part of these reports, that the occupation of the island, the expulsion of the Queen, and the whole demeanour of the French, had inspired the natives with the most violent hatred; and, considering on what pretexts they had been robbed of their independence, their sovereign, their ministers of religion, and their tranquillity, by the representations of a nation only known to them by these strange acts of violence, we cannot be surprised at this result. Assuming the French account to be true, we are informed that this resistance of the natives assumed the pacific form of a refusal to sell provisions to the French; the cattle were driven to the mountains, and the governor was reduced to issue a proclamation to compel the chiefs to declare what cattle they possessed, on pain of forfeiting all property in it. Four chiefs, who resisted this mandate, were seized by a detachment of troops, and conveyed on board the French corvette L'Embuscade. The letter from Queen Pomare to the chiefs, which was intercepted by the French, must have been written about this time—that is, in the month of January. On the 17th of January, the Dublin left Papeete; and on the 31st of that month, Pomare and her family went, under the advice of Mr Pritchard, on board the Basilisk. On the following day, the governor declared to the commander of that vessel that he should consider any attempt of Queen Pomare to land in the Society islands as an act of hostility.

Matters remained in this state during the month of February; but the chiefs of Taraboo, a peninsula on the south-eastern shore of the island, declared that they acknowledged no authority but that of their Queen. The governor, M. Brutat, does not seem at that time to have been strong enough to march against them; but he sent a vessel to the Marquesas for a reinforcement, which would raise his garrison to 700 men, and he built a couple of log forts at Papeete. At this critical moment, however, he left that place for several days, intrusting the command to M. D'Aubigny, and it was during the absence of the superior officer that the "eo

centricities" were committed which have called forth so much animadversion. Mr Pritchard's name was mentioned by a native, who had been seized for attacking a sentinel in the night of the 2nd of March. On the 3rd, Mr Pritchard was himself arrested, martial law was proclaimed, and the whole country assumed the appearance of open hostilities. We do not find, however, in these accounts any direct evidence, or even any specific allegation, that Mr Pritchard, or any English subject, contributed to these disturbances. It is, indeed, asserted, under date the 18th of March, that "the natives, assembled in the mountains, threaten our establishment; Mr Pritchard is the principal instigator in these troubles;" but ever since the 3rd of March—that is, the day on which the troubles broke out—Mr Pritchard had been either in confinement or on board the Basilisk; and it is probable that if he had been the chief instigator of the rebellion, it would have ceased on his arrest and expulsion. On the contrary, however, his removal was the precursor of a general revolt.

Meanwhile, there were twenty-seven vessels of different nations in the bay, chiefly whalers, and the greatest irritation was produced amongst the American, British, and Dutch crews, which happened to be there, at the intolerable restrictions placed on them by M. D'Aubigny's martial proclamation. Ever since the days of Captain Cook, Papeiti had been a free port to all nations, and the South Sea whalers were little disposed to let the French have their "Nouvelle Cythere" all to themselves. Quarrels were of daily occurrence; the French boats' crews were ducked in the sea; and not a few stragglers of different nations joined the insurgent natives, with munitions of war, and four small pieces of cannon. We are informed, though the report is perhaps exaggerated, that no less than 4,000 of the natives were under arms, and their more civilised auxiliaries were estimated at two hundred. Certain it is, that the insurgents found themselves sufficiently strong on the 21st of March to attack the French in an intrenched camp near Taraboo; a smart skirmish ensued, in which a party of French sailors were defeated, two men killed, seven wounded, and one carried off, whilst the natives were not beaten off until night-fall, and then with no great loss. The Phaeton steamer was dispatched to the relief of this party. "As it was returning to Papeiti," continues the same French account, with an ingenuous simplicity, "the vessel kept near the shore, to throw shells at the native huts which were within the reach of her mortars, when we discovered, with surprise, in a bay, two intrenchments large enough to shelter 200 combatants a-piece, whose heads were seen over the parapet. The more we examined this fortification, the more regular we found it. The flag of Queen Pomare was flying over it. Some Europeans, who seemed to have the command, came on the beach to provoke us to disembark. Prudence commanded us to do no such thing: we contented ourselves with sending them a few cannon shot, which did not seem to frighten them." This interesting picture of a governor steaming round his island, in order to throw shells at the huts or wig wams of the natives, but afraid to land when he saw the heads of 400 fighting men over the parapet, may sufficiently account for the sort of respect which the French authorities have extorted from the natives. They have raised a timid and inoffensive population to desperation; they have kindled a universal feeling of abhorrence against their proceedings, not only in the islands, but amongst the crews of all the vessels frequenting these shores. The instructions and restrictions of the home government are quite unable to check the extraordinary arrogance and indiscretion of the colonial and naval officers; but, after having done all that men could do to excite a rebellion, by every act of insult and oppression, they turned round upon us, and, with inimitable assurance, impute the whole blame to the English missionaries!

We infer from these facts, as they are stated by the French themselves, that the position of the establishment is one of considerable danger. The authorities have lost all moral command of the population; and 700 men may be much embarrassed to defend themselves against the whole island. Unless, therefore, a reinforcement promptly arrives, and they resolve upon a strong military occupation, it is within the limits of possibility that the French may be literally extirpated from the country. We may add, that, after what has occurred, if the French do continue to occupy, or even to protect, the Society islands, their presence and their very questionable authority there, will prove a permanent cause of strife, not only with ourselves, but with all maritime nations frequenting those ports.

We sincerely trust this affair may be susceptible of explanations satisfactory to the honour of both countries; and, although not disposed to insist with undue asperity on the nature of the insults offered to Mr Pritchard by unauthorised agents of the French government, we are bound to declare, that every new fact which has come to our knowledge has increased the strength of the case as against those French officers; and the allegations against Mr Pritchard are still wholly unsupported by evidence. We are, therefore, of opinion that the expressions and declarations made in parliament by Sir Robert Peel, the Duke of Wellington, and Lord Aberdeen, must be adhered to and maintained at all risks; and that this is not the case which allows us to recede one step from what is due to justice and to our character among nations.

A letter from Tahiti, in relating recent proceedings in that island, says of Mr Pritchard:—"I have no doubt you have heard of the arrest of George Pritchard, Esq., our consul here, for exciting the natives to rebellion. Mr P.'s sole exertions were to keep them from it. I hope England will do her duty in rectifying the wrongs and insults that have been unworthily heaped upon one of the best and most active men in the island. Particulars relating to him would take some sheets; and I have only time to say that he supplied two places of worship, preaching every Sunday in the English chapel, besides one or two sermons in the native church. I hope every good Christian minister and hearer will call for justice to their injured countrymen and insulted dag. Mr P. belonged to the London mission; besides being consul, his labours were extreme, and his attention in case of sickness indefatigable."

The letter from Tahiti which appears in the *Emancipation de Toulouse* informs us that French aggression in the Pacific has not limited itself to Queen Pomare's dominions. They have also seized the

Gambier islands, and troops are to be immediately sent from Tahiti to secure that new possession.

#### FRANCE.

The session of the French legislature for 1844 was closed by royal ordinance on Monday, the 5th inst. In the Chamber of Deputies, M. de la Rochejacquelein, having ascended the tribune, said it was impossible the assembly could separate without replying to the insulting language used in parliament by a minister of Great Britain in speaking of the naval officers of France. He knew that the cabinet was in a delicate position, but he thought that if it had acted with more firmness, England would not have dared to ask for reparation, when it was the French authority that had been so grossly insulted at Tahiti by the British consul. M. Guizot, in reply, observed that the question at issue should be left to the decision of the two governments; that he would attend to it carefully, and that the Chamber might rest convinced that he would do everything in his power to uphold the honour and rights of the French navy. M. Billault and M. Berryer spoke next, and after a new assurance from M. Guizot that he would throughout the negotiation defend the rights of nations and the interests of the country, the royal ordinance was read by the minister of Public Instruction, and the Chamber separated amidst cries of "Vive le Roi."

The affairs of Morocco and Tahiti almost exclusively engage the attention of the French journals. The storm got up in Paris by the Tahiti affair is considerably lulled. The Duke of Wellington's remarks in the House of Lords have had the effect of oil thrown upon the waves. The ministerial papers have ceased to declare that no reparation is due to England, and the opposition papers no longer demand that Pritchard should be put upon his trial. The government papers are very much annoyed at the reiterated declaration of the Duke that "a great outrage" has been committed. Previous to the account of the debate in the House of Lords being received at Paris, an article had appeared in the *London Standard*, assuming, as a matter beyond doubt, that Mr Pritchard was a party to the insurrection raised by the natives of Tahiti against their French usurpers. The French press seized upon these admissions with avidity, and commented upon them as if it expressed the impressions and intentions of the government. Their disappointment, therefore, upon finding out their mistake, was great indeed.

The Paris papers of Sunday are principally occupied with the conversation that arose in our House of Commons on Wednesday last, on the foreign policy of this country, between Lord Palmerston and Sir Robert Peel. These journals, persisting in the belief that Mr Pritchard had been guilty of endeavouring to create a revolt in Tahiti against the French, are indignant at the language used in the British parliament in characterising the conduct of M. D'Aubigny; but it is evident, from certain expressions of the *Journal des Débats*, that the possibility that that officer (M. D'Aubigny) had been in the wrong began to be admitted. That the affair would terminate amicably, was the belief in all well-informed quarters.

At the Italian opera, on Friday night, a line in Charles VI., "Jamais en France l'Anglais ne régnera," is answered by the chorus "Non;" a reply which was rapturously applauded. A similar demonstration took place at a musical festival on Friday, and was encored.

The *Univers* announces that the Minister of the Interior had ordered the breaking up of the convent of the Carmelite nuns at Tulle, and that the Prefect of the Corrèze had lost no time in obeying that injunction.

#### FRANCE AND MOROCCO.

The war with Morocco is at present suspended. The Grégois, which left Tangiers in the night of the 2nd, brings an account that at the moment when hostilities were about to commence, a letter from the Emperor arrived, giving full power to the Pacha of Larrache to treat for peace. This is confirmed by the receipt of telegraphic despatches by the French government, dated August 2nd and 3rd, to the following effect:—"The Emperor, who is coming from Rabat, is expected at Alkazar, within a march of a day and a half from Tangiers. It is said that Mr Hay is with him. The governor of Larrache has received from the Emperor full powers to negotiate. The Prince de Joinville has delegated, on his side, M. de Nion. All hostilities are suspended, and a pacific solution is anticipated."

On the day previous to that upon which the French government received the above despatch, another was received, dated the 2nd, announcing the arrival of the Prince de Joinville before Tangiers, and that no answer had been given to the *ultimatum*, but stating that the Prince was prevented from commencing his operations at once in consequence of the non-arrival from the interior of Mr Drummond Hay, for whose fate some uneasiness was felt. It appears, too, from other accounts, that Marshal Bugeaud had sent orders to the Prince de Joinville to occupy Tangier and Mogadore, at the expiration of the delay on the *ultimatum*. The Marshal, on his side, was preparing to assume the offensive, at the head of 14,000 or 15,000 men. The following paragraph, however, taken from the *Toulonnais* of the 8th inst., is curious and significant, sufficiently indicating that the French intend striking a blow somewhere:—"We have just learned that a telegraphic despatch, received this evening, orders the immediate departure of the three ships of the line, Ocean, Inflexible, and Neptune. These vessels are to put to sea to-morrow morning. Their destination is not

known, but it is to be presumed that they are proceeding to Tangier."

The *Toulonnais* of the 6th instant brings news from Algiers of the 30th ult. According to the correspondence of that journal, Marshal Bugeaud had resigned the command of the army on the frontier of Morocco into the hands of General Lamoriciere, to be more at leisure to follow the negotiations pending with the representatives of the Emperor, and to organise the tribes who had lately made their submission.

#### SPAIN.

Accounts from Madrid, of the 2nd of August, leave no doubt of the fact that the Queen signed a decree on the 24th ult., by which the sales of the national property are suspended, and the property yet unsold is restored to the clergy.

At the present moment there are nearly one thousand state prisoners in the prison called the *Carcel del Corte*, at Madrid alone, besides the multitudes confined in the other prisons of the metropolis, and throughout the other large towns of the kingdom. Nor is this all. All the most eminent members of the liberal party, finding that they have no longer any security for life, liberty, or property in their native land, are preparing to emigrate to foreign countries, where they may enjoy greater safety. Among those who are about to leave the country are M. Cortina, M. Madoz, and several other members of the late Cortes, who have already occasion, in their own persons, to know that in Spain neither innocence nor patriotism is a safeguard against oppression.

Accounts from the Cadiz journals of the 30th ult. mention that the Suffren ship of the line and the Rubis steamer sailed on the 29th for Tangier, on receipt of intelligence from Gibraltar that the Albion and Hecla had left for the coast of Morocco. The Prince de Joinville had preceded them in the Pluton. The Consul of the United States had alone remained at Tangier. The Vice-consul of Great Britain had retired with his wife on board the Albion, but was in constant communication with the town. The gardens of the consular body, in the vicinity of Tangier, had been ravaged by the troops; but, in that place, the persons and properties of the Europeans who continued to reside there were respected, thanks to the vigilance and energy of the authorities.

The *Journal des Débats* announces that the troops of the garrison of Madrid were constantly kept under arms, that arrests continued, and that several executions would shortly take place. According to the Barcelona correspondence of that journal, Mr Bulwer, the English minister, was not to return directly to Madrid, but would embark, on the 4th, in a steamer for Cadiz.

#### GERMANY.

The *Cologne Gazette* quotes letters from Prague of the 28th ult., mentioning that the spirit of disorder was extending to the workmen of the manufactories in which no machines were used, and whose owners were Christians. The riots of the workmen of Bohemia, Silesia, Gallicia, and other provinces, are spreading in a formidable manner. In vain did the Austrian government employ an unheard-of severity in the attempt to oppress them; slaughter and ferocious carnage were committed by the brutal soldiery, who killed like beasts the half starved population of workmen rising in arms by the influence of despairing want.

As the general meeting of German lawyers at Mentz was prevented by the chicanery of the government, they sent their delegates to a less numerous, but equally important assembly, in the same town. These representatives of the German body of lawyers and advocates pronounced, in an open declaration, the result of their conference, to the purport that they considered the establishment of the jury throughout Germany as the only means of satisfying the just claims of the people, founded upon the real knowledge of the value of this institution, sanctified by the spirit of the age.

#### HAYTI.

Hayti is more distracted than ever. Papers to the 7th July announce a new division. San Domingo, the Spanish part of the island, had some time ago declared itself independent of the Haytian republic; towards the end of June, the junta proposed to put the southern territory under the "protection" of France; and entered into a treaty with the French consul, who agreed to furnish armed assistance, and 3,000,000 piastres; France taking the peninsula of Samana in pledge for the repayment; and the Styx French war steamer entered the Ozama river. This created a popular tumult, headed by Col. Joaquim Puello, a black. The junta divided itself into a French and a national party; and both sides remained in a hostile position; the French having received their partisans in the junta on board, and threatening to bombard the town. While these events were in progress, intelligence was received that the department of Cibao had detached itself from San Domingo, and erected itself into a separate state, to be called the "republic of Cibao." Thus stood matters on the 27th June.

#### ITALY.

The *Journal of the Two Sicilies* of the 27th ult. publishes the sentence and execution of nine of the unfortunate young men who sailed from Corfu in June last for the Calabrias. On the 24th, the military commission sitting at Cosenza pronounced sentence of death upon 17 of the persons implicated in the descent upon Calabria, nine of which were carried into effect on the following day. The names of the unhappy sufferers were: Attilio and Emilio Bandiera, sons of the Austrian admiral; Nicolo

Bieciotti the commander of the flying column of the insurgents of Ancona, in 1831, who subsequently fought throughout the civil war in Spain, and rose to the rank of lieutenant-colonel; Domenico Moro, former lieutenant in the Austrian navy; Anacharsis Narde, a lawyer and nephew to the dictator of Modena, in the insurrection of 1831; Giovanni Verenucci, Giacomo Rocca, Francesco Berti, and Domenico Lapatelli.

## GREECE.

The *Cologne Gazette* publishes a letter from Athens, of the 21st of July, in which it is stated that, in the course of the elections, forty lives have been lost. It was supposed that the government would be in a minority of fifteen or twenty. The King has again endeavoured to prevail upon M. Coletti to join the present ministry, but without effect.

## FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

**PRESENTS TO THE QUEEN FROM LOUIS PHILIPPE.**—"The Sévres, Gobelins, and Beauvais royal manufactures," says the *Constitutionnel*, "and several private artists and manufacturers have received large and splendid orders from the civil list, destined, it is believed, for presents from the King during his visit to England."

**THE YOUNG QUEEN OF SPAIN.**—Letters from Madrid say, that rumours are again afloat as to negotiations and diplomatic meetings to settle the question of the Queen's marriage; but the letter of a Barcelona correspondent says, "The health of the young Queen is not such as to afford satisfaction for the last five or six days. During that period, indeed, she has not stirred out. In fact, she can scarcely take exercise even in her own apartments, as she is quite lame. It is said she sprained her foot dancing with her sister in her apartment; but it is believed that her difficulty of moving is owing to her being swollen in an extraordinary manner, particularly in her legs. Her appearance is that of one in a confirmed dropsy. Some weeks after her arrival here she had improved considerably; but she has again retrograded. Her sister is also ill, and confined to her apartment."

**THE RUSSIANS AND CIRCASSIANS.**—By a letter from Tiflis we learn that, on the defeat of the Russians at Erbend, on the Caspian sea, Shamel Bey, the Circassian general, entered the town, after forcing the temporary fortifications, with a loss to the Russians of 2000 men, and made a rich booty in provisions and ammunition. The Russians have since been beaten with considerable loss near Gratigarsk, in the Upper Caucasus. The army, which is, it is said, 100,000 strong, is greatly discouraged. Its head quarters are at Stavropol, near Coubran, under the orders of Prince Michael and General Yermoloff.

A letter from Stockholm, July 27, states that the budget had just been presented to the Diet, and that the demand for the civil list is 65,000 crowns less than under the reign of the late king. The expenses for the army and navy are, however, more considerable than before.

## Postscript.

Wednesday, August 14th.

**FRANCE AND ENGLAND.**—A cabinet council was held yesterday afternoon at the foreign office, Downing street; most of the principal members of the cabinet having returned to town to attend it. The council remained in deliberation about two hours. The *Times* considers it "a significant intimation of the importance which is justly attached to the present state of our relations with France, and the anxious desire of the British government to apply itself with the utmost energy to the vindication of our national honour, to the adjustment of the differences which have arisen, and could scarcely fail to arise, out of the French occupation of Tahiti, and to the maintenance of peace." It further goes on to say, "We do not affect to be in possession of the tenor of the communications which have been made by the court of France in answer to Lord Aberdeen's strong representations on the subject of the treatment of Mr Pritchard; and it would probably be inconvenient and unreasonable to drag these unclaimed negotiations into the broad daylight of publicity on both sides of the channel. But we venture to affirm, that the mutual good-will of the two cabinets is the same that it has ever been; and M. Guizot would have been the first to claim, and to obtain from the British government, that measure of redress which we are now seeking at his hands, if the case had been inverted, and the wrong complained of had been inflicted by British officers on a French subject." And again, "The laws of international justice cannot be maintained unless they are resolutely asserted; and public duty allows of no retreat from the position which our rights and this injury have assigned to us."

**AMERICA.**—The *Hibernia* brings intelligence from New York seven days later. The papers contain an account of a destructive conflagration at Brooklyn, opposite the city of New York, by which twenty-six houses and much valuable property were destroyed. The accounts of the crops are most favourable, and the harvest will be abundant. The estimates of the loss of cotton by the overflowing of the Mississippi vary from 100,000 to 400,000 bales. There had been another insurrection in St Domingo, and a black man, Santa Anna (not he of Mexico) had been elected president. The grand jury of Philadelphia were still engaged in conducting an inquiry into the late riots in that city. According to the papers, there are gratifying indications that the lessons so impressively enforced by these melancholy and disgraceful outbreaks have not

been disregarded. A "Tyler demonstration" had taken place at New York, which ended in a row, and the defeat of the object of the meeting. The *Boston Times* publishes an official statement from the President of the branch of the Mormons in that city, from which it appears that Samuel H. Smith, the oldest member of the family now living, and a brother of the murdered prophet, will take the office of his brother Hiram, as patriarch in the church, according to the ancient custom of God's people. Governor Ford, of Illinois, has made a requisition on the United States government for 500 troops, to be stationed in the neighbourhood of Nauvoo, to prevent any bloodshed by the anti-Mormons or the Mormons. A great deal of exasperated feeling existed in that neighbourhood.

**FRANCE.**—The French ministerial papers have almost ceased to talk of the affair of Tahiti, and the tone even of the opposition papers has become more subdued as regards England, although it continues to launch out with undiminished bitterness against M. Guizot and his supporters, as well as in vilifying Mr Pritchard, whom they charge with all kinds of crimes and immoralities. The French government have received the following supplementary dispatch:—"Gibraltar, the evening of the 5th.—The government has just received news from Mr Hay. The Emperor, he states, has granted to France and Spain the just satisfaction which they have demanded. Mr Hay is expected at Tangiers to-morrow evening. The French fleet is at this moment preparing to sail from Tangiers for Gibraltar." The Gambier islands, in the South Seas, were taken possession of by France in February last.

## COMPLETE SUFFRAGE.

**STEWARTON, NEAR KILMARNOCK.**—A numerously-signed requisition, from the inhabitants of this town, was presented to Mr Vincent, during his stay at Kilmarnock, soliciting his presence at Stewarton, for the purpose of addressing them on the suffrage question. On Saturday week Mr Vincent and Mr Craig attended for this purpose. They were met about half-a-mile from the town by a large concourse of persons with music, flags, &c., and were conducted into the town amidst the liveliest demonstrations of joy. The meeting was held in a large church; and Mr Vincent addressed the assembly in explanation and defence of the suffrage movement, and especially on the importance of contesting all vacant cities and boroughs with thorough-going men. Great interest was excited by the topics introduced, and the meeting expressed its approval by loud applause. After a short address from Bailie Craig, a vote of thanks to both gentlemen was unanimously given.

**FENWICK.**—This little town was visited by Mr Vincent and Mr Craig, on Monday week. A large meeting was held in the Secession church, which was presided over by one of the principal landowners of the neighbourhood. Mr Vincent was received in a very flattering manner, and addressed the meeting at great length, and was much cheered by the hearty responses that were given to his sentiments. There is a noble band of radical reformers in this town.

**KILMARNOCK.**—Since the festival, Mr Vincent has addressed two crowded meetings here; one on the suffrage question, and the other on temperance. Two churches were granted for these interesting meetings. It is pleasing to see how readily the cause of temperance is embraced by the advocates of political reform. In the town of Kilmarnock, there are several hundred people who totally abstain from the use of intoxicating drinks, and, as may be expected, the majority of these people are stern radicals. Mr Vincent left us for Ireland, via Ardrossan and Belfast, and returns to lecture at Glasgow, Galashiels, Hawick, and other places in Scotland.

**REPEAL ASSOCIATION.**—The usual weekly meeting took place at the Conciliation hall, on Monday; Mr O'Gorman in the chair. A vote of thanks was passed to a Mr Pearson, who had resigned his pretensions to the representation of the College ward, in favour of Mr Charles Gavin Duffy, one of the state prisoners. Mr D. O'Connell, jun., gave in his weekly bulletin from Richmond penitentiary, which is understood to be a transcript of his father's opinions on matters of public interest. When the account reached Mr O'Connell of the speech made by Mr Sheil, on the subject of the state trials, he expressed his deep regret that any such speech should have been delivered. Mr O'Connell totally disavows and repudiates the matter of that speech. He thinks it was a highly unbecoming one, as proceeding from any friend of his; and he considered it anything but friendly on the part of Mr Sheil. I also state "that, as Mr O'Connell, at the close of the proceedings in the Queen's bench, solemnly protested against the injustice done to him, he still continues firm in that protest. There has not been, and never will be, on his part, any shrinking or compromise; and he cannot consider any man his friend who talks of either compromise or shrinking."

Mr O'Connell has now, and long has had, but one political object—the restoration of the domestic legislature of Ireland—a restoration which, in his judgment, is merely a question of time. Come it must—the only question is, when. He deems the period not distant, and he desires to be at large only the more actively to pursue all peaceable and legal means to restore the native legislature of Ireland." Mr O'Connell concluded by calling on the burgesses of Dublin to pay up their taxes in order to be enabled to vote at the approaching municipal elections. A resolution was adopted to the effect that it be referred to the committee to report upon the best method of establishing repeal

reading rooms throughout the country. Mr C. Powell, M.P., brought forward an address to her Majesty on the subject of repeal, said to be signed by upwards of 1,000,000 people, and moved that it be forwarded for presentation. Mr Grattan, M.P., seconded the motion, and at much length addressed the meeting on the subject of the recent proceedings in parliament regarding Irish affairs. The amount of repeal rent for the past week was £946 17s.

**THE ART UNION OF LONDON.**—The annual meeting of the subscribers to the Art Union of London, an institution which has latterly attracted particular attention, in consequence of the proceedings adopted by government for the suppression of all institutions based upon the principle on which it was established, was held yesterday, by permission of Mr Bunn, in the Theatre Royal, Drury lane. The attendance was numerous. The Duke of Cambridge was called to the chair, and, in his opening address, stated that the number of subscribers had increased from 7,000 to 14,000. A very interesting report was then read by Mr Godwin, the honorary secretary. It stated that since 1837, the Art Union had expended £36,000 in the purchase and preparation of works of art, and that they had correspondents in every quarter of the globe. We make the following selections from the report:

The number of works of art selected by the prizeholders last year was 236, including two pieces of sculpture. They were exhibited for three weeks to the subscribers and their friends in the Suffolk Street gallery, by permission of the Society of British Artists, and for one week gratuitously to the public without any limitation or restriction. It is estimated that in the whole nearly 200,000 persons visited this exhibition. Since the date of the last general meeting the print due to the subscribers of 1843, "Raffaelle and the Fornarina," engraved after Sir Augustus Calcott, by Mr Lumb Stocks, has been distributed. At the same time the outlines in illustration of "The Pilgrim's Progress," engraved after Mr Selous by Mr Henry Moses, were distributed to the subscribers of the current year. The engraving after Mr Clarkson Stansfield, R.A., by Mr Goodall, "The Castle of Ischia," due to the subscribers of the current year (1844), in addition to the outlines, is in a forward state. The fact that two such works as these (either of which, under ordinary circumstances, would cost a guinea or more,) can be produced for every subscriber of that sum, and still leave the greater part of the aggregate amount for the purchase of paintings and sculpture, affords an extraordinary instance of the results of co-operation. Every subscriber for 1845 will receive an impression of a fine engraving, after Mr Mulready, R.A., by Mr G. T. Dee, "The Convalescent," which is far advanced towards completion. In order to ensure a good subject for engraving hereafter, and to induce the production of a superior work of art, your committee are about to offer the sum of £500, under conditions which will be advertised, for an original picture illustrative of English history. They propose that cartoons, the size of the picture, shall be sent in by the 1st of January, 1845, from which the selection shall be made; and that the artist shall undertake to complete the finished painting within twelve months after the decision. Since the last meeting more than 80,000 letters and circulars have been issued by post, 15,000 copies of last year's report, 50,000 prospectuses and almanacs, and 10,000 catalogues of the prizes have been distributed. For the print of "Una" 12,000 sheets of paper were required, for that of "Raffaelle and the Fornarina" nearly the same number, and for the designs in outline 330,000 sheets. The amount set apart, according to the foregoing statement, for the purchase of works of art, viz., £8,590, will be allotted as follows:—50 works of art, of the value of £10 each, £500; 36 works of art, of the value of £15 each, £540; 42 works of art, of the value of £20 each, £480; 28 works of art, of the value of £25 each, £700; 25 works of art, of the value of £30 each, £750; 20 works of art, of the value of £40 each, £800; 14 works of art, of the value of £50 each, £700; 12 works of art, of the value of £60 each, £720; eight works of art, of the value of £70 each, £560; six works of art, of the value of £80 each, £480; six works of art, of the value of £100 each, £600; two works of art, of the value of £150 each, £300; two works of art, of the value of £200 each, £400; one work of art, of the value of £300; one work of art, of the value of £400. To these are to be added 30 bronzes of the "Bust of Hebe," making in the whole 283 works of art.

Mr Wyse, Lord Monteagle, and other gentlemen having addressed the meeting, the drawing of prizes commenced.

The first was one of £70, which fell to the lot of Dr Culhan, of Dartford. Prizes of the same amount were also drawn in favour of the Rev. C. Parker, Mr C. Comber, Mr P. Cruikshank, Mr R. Bateman, and others. Mr J. Thompson, of Halifax, Nova Scotia, obtained a £30 prize. (His address having excited a general laugh, the secretary observed that they had a long list of subscribers from that part of the globe.) The following are a few out of a great number of successful contributors, the announcing of which occupied nearly three hours:—Mr C. Kilburn, of Port Philip, £100; Mr W. Collingwood, of Liverpool, £100; Mrs Watlington, of Upper Bedford place, £100; Mr T. Rawlings, of Stourbridge, £80; Mr J. Flamant, of Tavistock, 200; Mr E. Hazlitt, of Hounslow, £150; Mrs W. H. M'Queen, of Tottenham Court road, £100; Silentio, £150; Mr J. Chancellor, of Bolton, £100; Mr Maberly, of the Post office, Dublin, £100; Mr P. M. George, of Cheshire, £300; Miss C. Hennington, near Lonsdale, £400; the Countess of Arundel, and Surrey, £30; Earl Grey, £10; the Earl of March, £25; the Countess of March, £30; Mr E. Pritchard, of Montgomeryshire, £60; Mr E. Hawkins, F.R.S., £60; Mr T. C. Foster, of the Middle Temple, £20.

Her Majesty is, according to the latest accounts, going on in every respect as well as possible. The young Prince is also perfectly well.

At eight o'clock yesterday evening, the Prince Royal of Prussia, brother to the King, arrived at Woolwich in the Princess Alice steamer from Ostend, on a visit to this country.

**SIR WILLIAM FOLLETT.**—Sir W. Follett, the attorney-general, left England a day or two since, to try what effect the more genial climate of southern Europe, as well as the total abstinence from all professional and political duties, may have upon his shattered constitution.

**THE WEATHER.**—The rains which have prevailed during the past week, have had an unfavourable effect on the funds. Much rain fell yesterday, and this morning the weather is cloudy and threatening.

## CORN MARKET. MARK LANE. THIS DAY.

	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Beans	Peas	Flour
English ..	1530	120	110			
Scotch....						
Irish ....						
Foreign ..	16480	13740	13690			

Rather more money asked, but not much business doing.

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Viator" and "A Working Man." Under consideration.  
"Lignum." Next week.  
We have not room for the communication from Liverpool in this number.  
"Common Sense." His style is rather too bombastic to allow of the insertion of his letter.

Terms for advertising in the *Nonconformist*.  
For 7 lines...5s. 0d. | For 10 lines...6s. 0d.  
For every additional line.....4d.  
For a half column £1 5s. | For a column..£2 0s.  
• Advertisements from the country must be accompanied by a post-office order, or reference for payment in London.

Orders for the *Nonconformist* are received at the office, and by all booksellers and newsvendors. The terms of subscription, if paid in advance, are £1 6s. per annum. All communications for the Editor should be addressed to the office, No. 4, Crane court, Fleet street.

**The Nonconformist.**

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14, 1844.

## SUMMARY.

THE prospect of a war with France is, we are happy to find, daily diminishing. The firmness of the British government in demanding reparation for the gross insult offered to its consul at Tahiti has somewhat lowered the bullying tone of the French war party. The government organ—the *Journal des Débats* no longer declares that the conduct of M. D'Aubigny, at Tahiti, was perfectly justifiable, but "hopes that the moderation of the two governments will disappoint the wishes of the enemies of peace, both foreign and domestic." There is, therefore, much ground for believing that the matter will be amicably arranged. Meanwhile, however, the poor oppressed inhabitants of Tahiti have been goaded into insurrection, and, according to the latest accounts, were in a fair way of expelling the French usurpers. Should this be the case, we fear their success will be but temporary, and that the French will return to the island with a force which will make resistance useless. We rejoice, therefore, to perceive that the public feeling on this question is at length thoroughly roused, and that meetings are being held throughout the country to express their indignation at the cruel aggressions of the French. Pomare and her people have nowhere else to look for help than to England. A united, firm expression of public opinion in this country can scarcely fail, we think, of having a great moral effect on the other side of the channel, even if it do not induce the French government to abandon its designs upon Tahiti. We cannot forbear noticing the meanness of the British government in allowing not only the French, but their own journals to misrepresent and vilify the conduct of Mr Pritchard, when they must have known, from their own sources of information, that it was Mr Pritchard's unwearied exertions alone that prevented an outbreak of the natives before his departure from the island; and that, in order to put a stop to French aggression, that gentleman paid out of his own pocket the heavy fine imposed on Queen Pomare.

The war between France and Morocco, which has threatened to involve this country, seems, from present appearances, likely to be brought to a close. The Emperor has opened negotiations with the French, who, on their side, have consented to suspend hostilities. A pacific solution of the question is hence anticipated. It should, however, be borne in mind that our neighbours have now a large army and well-appointed fleet surrounding Morocco, ready for action. If, therefore, the negotiations are not broken off, there is little doubt that the French will manage to gain a footing in the Moorish territory, and, in imitation of the British in India, pick a fresh quarrel with the Emperor, to be followed by the conquest of the country.

The two houses of legislature concluded the labours of a protracted session on Friday night, when the Lords adjourned to the second, the Commons to the fifth, of September. The decision of the judges on the writ of error relative to the Irish state trials, will then be announced, and parliament immediately prorogued. How far the House of Commons has discharged its trust, as the representative of the people, we have already endeavoured to show. Not only, however, has it reaped a full harvest of disgust and hatred by its systematic opposition to every measure calculated to promote the national welfare, but even in what has been done there has been so marked an absence of business-like arrangement and mature legislation, as to bring down upon it the severest censures of all parties, even of the firmest supporters of aristocratic government and the present ministry. The earlier part of the session was not less remarkable for its frequent countings out, and meaningless discussions, than was the latter for its dropped measures and railroad despatch of business. It is amusing to listen to the reproachful complaints of the Premier. On Friday night he pathetically declared, that with such protracted sessions and heavy business, it would be impossible for ministers properly to discharge their official duties. We

are glad the shoe is beginning to pinch. It is gratifying to find that, despite the enormous power and patronage the "paternal" system of legislation puts into the hands of government—the quack as well as the patient is beginning to feel its inconveniences. Temporary symptoms are here and there removed, by the application of superficial remedies, which drive the disease beneath the surface only to appear in new and more baffling forms. The nation ails sadly, and, what is strange, its strength and energy decline in proportion to the attentions of its medical attendant, while the disorder has become so dangerous and complicated that the latter begins to complain of his unremitting duties. Sir R. Peel may rest assured, that the difficulties and labour of government are but trifling compared with what they will be, should our rulers persist in the pernicious idea that it is bound to provide a cure for every evil that afflicts society. Instead of occupying six months only out of the year, parliament will have to sit permanently. It is attempting the task of Phaeton, and will assuredly be followed with a like success.

The proceedings of parliament during the last few days of its sitting call for little remark. The Lords were principally engaged in registering the edicts of the Commons. In the lower house, on Wednesday evening, Lord Palmerston made his annual valedictory speech on the foreign policy of government. It was neither so long nor so laboured as have usually been his parting addresses on this topic. The burden of it was, that our present system of foreign policy was one of unlimited concession abroad, and of resistance at home. Sir Robert Peel angrily repelled Lord Palmerston's unexpected charges, by giving them a flat denial, and would not vouchsafe a word of explanation on those questions of foreign policy which just now especially interest the public. On Thursday, several bills were introduced, for the purpose of being printed and circulated during the recess. The principal of these is a bill for medical reform, by which it is proposed to establish a council of health in direct connexion with the Executive, for qualifying physicians, surgeons, and apothecaries. Medical men thus qualified are to be alone recognised in the eye of the law, and eligible for government medical appointments. Another measure proposes to substitute salaries in lieu of fees to clerks and other officers of quarter and petty sessions. A third amends the law of settlement; making the register of birth or baptism the only test of proof. On Friday, the House adjourned, but not in silence. Both parties seized the last opportunity they are likely for some time to enjoy, of throwing dust in the eyes of the public. "The whigs," as the *Spectator* aptly remarks, "made a vigorous party sally, to secure a good position for the recess." Some observations by Mr Sheil, urging on government the release of Mr O'Connell, were followed up by Lord John Russell, who took the opportunity of launching out into a general statement of his views as to the condition of the country, and his panacea for the evils under which it labours. The speech of the noble lord was more than usually deficient in spirit and interest. It plainly proved that he has no intention of moving forward with the advance of opinion. Sir R. Peel of course replied, commended the moderation of Lord John Russell, and drew quite a dazzling picture of the successful results of the session. Surrounded by this bright halo, created by the eloquence of its leader, who proved himself in this instance no despicable rival of his own bottle conjurer, the House adjourned.

The Dudley election terminated, as was expected, in the return of Lord Ward's nominee, Mr Benbow, an old man of seventy years of age. Mr Rawson, the League candidate, polled about one-third as many votes as his opponent. The number of elections that have taken place in pocket boroughs during the present session is somewhat remarkable. There have been vacancies at Abingdon, Woodstock, Launceston, Christchurch, Horsham, Huntingdon, Cirencester, and other places, which have been respectively filled up by nominees of Mr Duffield, the Duke of Marlborough, the Duke of Northumberland, Sir George Rose, the Duke of Norfolk, Lord Sandwich, and Lord Bathurst. Such are a few specimens of the kind of representation secured to this people by the passing of the Reform bill. In connexion with this subject, we copy the following paragraph from the *League*, asserting "the truth we have for months past endeavoured, not without much reproach, to impress upon the public mind":—

"There are from sixty to seventy boroughs of this description. Is it any wonder that monopoly has a large parliamentary majority? Why, monopoly can at once pay for the seats, and make the seats pay. The extent of this evil was scarcely, we apprehend, understood by the council of the League, when it engaged to contest the seats which should become vacant in the borough representation. This peculiar mischief must be met in other modes."

Elsewhere will be found an excellent address from the 346 electors who voted with Mr Sturge at the late Birmingham election, to the independent electors of the United Kingdom, calling upon them to throw aside the trammels of party, and use their vote and influence for the po-

litical enfranchisement of the people. We trust the advice therein given will be extensively carried out. Such is the state of our present representative system, that it is impossible for the people to compete with the aristocracy on electoral ground. Even the above confession of the *League* implies as much. To carry out Mr Crawford's plan seems the only means likely to be successful, of wresting justice from the legislature, and this cannot be done unless the people succeed in returning a few tried, staunch men to the House of Commons, prepared to act independent of both sections of the aristocracy. We shall probably return to the subject next week.

## POST OFFICE ESPIONAGE.

In our last number we gave the report of the committee appointed by the House of Lords to inquire into the subject of Post office espionage. The report of the Commons' committee has since been published, and occupies nearly a page in the daily papers. Its length and greater antiquarian research alone distinguish it from the Lords' report. Both will be equally unsatisfactory to the country.

The Commons' committee report states that the exercise of the power of opening letters can be traced from the earliest institutions of this country for the conveyance of letters, from Orders in Council of the 22nd of November, 1626, and 24th of February, 1627, and that it has "been recognised by several acts of parliament." We learn from the report, that since 1822, 182 warrants have been issued, averaging about eight in a year, on a circulation of about 220,000,000 of letters; that the power of detention has been invariably refused in cases where *civil rights* have alone been involved; that it has been generally exercised on the application of attorneys and magistrates for the recovery of property, and the apprehension and conviction of offenders; and finally, that, on an average of the last twenty-one years, the number of warrants issued to detect schemes for destroying public tranquillity, has not exceeded two annually. It is, however, admitted that the power in question was extensively used during the disturbances in the manufacturing districts the year before last, and in the Rebecca riots last year, and that many individuals whose correspondence was violated were tried and convicted. The particulars of the case of Mr Mazzini are more fully stated by the Commons' than by the Lords' committee, and the espionage to oblige a foreign government more distinctly set forth. His letters were stopped for four months, and to the number of sixty or seventy. No other instance of a similar kind is mentioned as having before occurred. The following is an extract from the report on the subject:—

"The facts of the case, *so far as your committee feel themselves at liberty to disclose them*, appear to be as follows:—Representations had been made to the British government, from high sources, that plots, of which Mr Mazzini was the centre, were carrying on upon British territory, to excite an insurrection in Italy, and that such insurrection, should it assume a formidable aspect, would, from peculiar political circumstances, disturb the peace of Europe. The British government, considering the extent to which British interests were involved in the maintenance of that peace, issued on their own judgment, but not at the suggestion of any foreign power, a warrant to open and detain Mr Mazzini's letters. Such information, deduced from those letters, as appeared to the British government calculated to frustrate this attempt, was communicated to a foreign power; but the information so communicated was not of a nature to compromise, and did not compromise, the safety of any individual within the reach of that foreign power; nor was it made known to that power by what means, or from what source, that information had been obtained."

The committee go on to mention a warrant to open and detain all letters addressed to Mr Worcell, Mr Stolzman, Mr Grodicki, and another foreign gentleman, during the present year. The last two warrants rested on grounds connected with the personal safety of a foreign sovereign (the Emperor of Russia, we presume), "entrusted to the protection of England." The conclusions to which the Commons' committee comes are given in the following paragraphs of the report:—

"If the result of this inquiry had been such as to impress your committee with a conviction of the importance of the frequent use of this power in the ordinary administration of affairs, they would have been prepared to recommend some legislative measures for its regulation and control; and it might not be difficult to devise regulations which would materially diminish the objections to its exercise; as, for example, that no criminal warrant should be issued except on a written information on oath; that a formal record should be preserved in the Secretary of State's office of the grounds on which every warrant had been issued, of the time during which it has remained in force, of the number of letters opened under it, and of the results obtained. It is, however, on the other hand, to be considered whether any legislative measure of this kind might not have an indirect effect in giving an additional sanction to the power in question, and thereby possibly extending its use."

"Under these circumstances, it will be for parliament to consider whether they will determine upon any legislative regulation, or whether they will prefer leaving the power, on its present footing in point of law, in the hands of the Secretary of State, to be used, on his responsibility in those cases of emergency in which, according to the best of his judgment, its exercise would be sanctioned by an enlightened public opinion, and would appear to be strongly called for by important public interests."

Both reports appear to us delusive and unsatisfactory, for the following reasons:—They do not meet the whole of the charges Mr Duncombe undertook to prove before the respective committees. They do not even mention the subject of secret letter-opening, with its seal-forging, wax-melting, and wafer-steaming apparatus. For all that the reports inform us, we might suppose that all letters opened were forwarded in that condition to their destination. The reports state that so many warrants have been issued, without mentioning the number of *letters* that have been opened. In the case of Mazzini and the other foreigners, it appeared that but one warrant was issued, but that the letters of *several* persons were violated. Here then a question arises—may not and is not frequently a warrant issued, containing a *catalogue of victims?* Or are men victimised without any warrant whatever? It is clear that either of these alternatives must be admitted, and it is equally clear that, such admission being inevitable, a return of warrants is utterly worthless, unless accompanied by a return of the number of persons whose letters were ordered to be examined. What care the public about the number of warrants issued? It was charged against government, and offered to be proved, that letters had been opened without warrant, and in contravention of the law. In place of investigating this matter, the committees give a cut and dried list of warrants, issued by government, for a certain number of years! Is it to be believed, that the committee's assertion, affirming that, for the last twenty-two years, two warrants only have been on an average annually issued for political objects, really represents the extent to which government have had recourse to the post office for political purposes? Let any one call to mind for a minute the important events and movements that have taken place between 1822 and 1844, and he will find it impossible to come to the wished-for conclusion of the committees.

Each committee has left the question in such a state as to allow of legislative interference or not, as circumstances may require. Government may rest assured that the public will not allow the matter to rest until this system of secret letter opening is entirely done away with. As to the law of the matter, they care but little. The practice is immoral—a reproach to the nation, and an instrument which is capable of being used almost to an indefinite extent, in injuring private character, and in furthering the designs of oppression, without the public knowing aught about the matter. It is to be hoped, therefore, the matter will not be suffered to be hushed up by the intervention of the recess. We hope Mr Duncombe will be prepared, at the commencement of next session, to re-apply himself to the task he has begun with so much energy and faithfulness, and that the public will not be behind-hand in giving him their active support. If a veil is to be dropped over the delinquencies of former governments—too extensive and degrading, probably, for exposure—be it so. But assuredly the public will no longer submit to have their correspondence violated *ad libitum* by the Secretary of State and his officials, or at least without a knowledge of the transaction.

#### EPITAPH ON THE EXPIRING SESSION.

THE *Times* has, for some time past, gone into opposition, not only against government, but against the two houses of legislature. To bring them into contempt with the people, would seem to be its studied object. So pertinaciously does it follow out this design, as almost to create a suspicion that it is paving the way, either for a further reform of the representative system, or, in accordance with the sentiments of Mr D'Israeli and Young England, for its extinction altogether. Whatever be its motive for such a strange course of procedure, is, however, of little moment, since but one result can follow—to strengthen the conviction in the public mind of the absolute necessity of a thorough radical reform of the House of Commons. The *Times* of Friday thus takes up its parable against the expiring session:—

"The session which has now virtually closed will not add much to the national reverence and affection for our ancient parliament. It has barely half fulfilled the promises of an opening speech which promised very little indeed. In the midst of great events, great distresses, and great disorders, it has cherished the apathetic virtues of the counting house or of the study. The world has been doing and suffering as much as ever; but parliament could scarcely have done less had the world been standing still—had all the floodgates of misery and passion been securely and finally closed—had the universal race of man attained to the cold perfection which the economist fondly imagines."

The "leading journal," while putting in strongest light the selfish and oppressive policy of parliament, even ventures to furnish arguments for an extension of the franchise:—

"It must be confessed that neither the poor nor the clergy have much voice in the legislature. The numerous bits of universal suffrage in the old borough system, corrupt as they were, seem to have effected that virtual representation of the very poorest which the theory as well as practice of our mixed constitution requires. The lowest unit of the present political system is a £10 householder; all below are nullities. We are living under a

*timocracy. Parliament shows the result. It is losing year by year all that is pious, generous, and sympathetic; and adopting more and more the instincts of a millionaire, the policy of a soldier, and the methods of a policeman.* On the plea of being a perfect representative system, it is rejecting that paternal character which proceeded on the fact that the mass of the people could not speak or act for themselves. It supposes all people competent to protect their own rights and interests."

With the powerful aid of the House of Commons speaking by its actions, and the *Times* newspaper as commentator, the cause of radical reform is in little danger of becoming extinct, even were its active friends to cease all exertion in agitating it.

**HER MAJESTY'S SIGNATURE TO THE COMMISSION.**—Her Majesty signed the commission for giving the royal assent to various bills on Tuesday morning about five o'clock, scarcely three hours before her accouchement! The commission was despatched by the Lord Chancellor to her Majesty by a special messenger, who went by the nine o'clock train from Paddington on Monday evening. It was mentioned to the Queen that a commission requiring her signature had arrived, but that she need not sign it until the following morning. About five o'clock, however, feeling that her accouchement was fast approaching, and with that presence of mind so characteristic of her, recollecting that an important public document was in the castle awaiting her signature, she immediately directed it to be brought, and although not free from pain and anxiety, affixed her signature with the same freedom of hand as usual to the commission and the sheets of parchment upon which the names of the bills were inscribed. As there were seven sheets of parchment, the signature of the Queen was required to be as often repeated.

**PUBLIC PETITIONS TO PARLIAMENT.**—The 43rd report relative to public petitions on various subjects presented to the House of Commons has just made its appearance. It hence appears that the present gross total number of petitions and petitioners on the following measures stands as follows:—viz., for a repeal of the (legislative) union with Ireland 528 petitions, signed by 1,067,545 individuals; for encouragement to the system of the Church Education society in Ireland 11 petitions, signed by 783 individuals; for legalising marriages solemnised in Ireland by presbyterian ministers 457 petitions, signed by 172,381 individuals; against any alteration whatever in the existing corn laws 3,837 petitions, signed by 288,321 individuals; for an alteration of the Property Tax act (will expire next April) two petitions only, signed by 71 persons; against a reduction in the differential duties on sugar and coffee one petition (from Jamaica), signed by 975 individuals; for a tax upon steam machinery, and upon wood sawed by steam 10 petitions, signed by 2,575 persons; in favour of the Art Unions bill one petition; against the renewal of the Bank of Ireland charter 25 petitions, signed by 88,291 persons; for an alteration of the laws relating to blasphemy eight petitions, signed by 1,639 persons; against the Charitable Donations and Bequests (Ireland) bill nine petitions, signed by 8,928 persons; for encouragement of the fine arts two petitions, signed by 180 persons; for extending the Small Debts bill to Ireland three petitions, signed by 716 persons, &c. Independent of the above there are 2,661 petitioners, whose names (or marks) are recorded on parchment, praying the House to "do its utmost endeavours for the immediate liberation of Daniel O'Connell, Esq., and the traversers with him." There are, moreover, 22 petitions, signed by 619 individuals complaining of letters being opened at the Post office; one party, Mr Hugh Craig, a cloth merchant, of Kilmarnock, in Scotland, complains of the loss of a letter sent through the General Post office, containing "a considerable amount of money," and prays for inquiry.

**POSTAGE TO BELGIUM.**—By the new convention between the British and Belgium Post offices, the postage of letters between England and Belgium is reduced to 1s. for the whole distance, of which sum Belgium will take 5d. and England 7d. This is a reduction of more than half of the present rate. The pre-payment will be optional. The journals, of whatever size, will be charged and continued.

**THE ROWLAND HILL TESTMONIAL.**—Preparations, we find, are making by the committee in London, to bring the subscriptions to a close in the course of the next month; a statement which we hope will quicken the gratitude of those who have not yet thrown in their mite towards this well designed national tribute. After the subscriptions are paid in to the committee, a public meeting will be held to determine in what way it will be best applied to honour and benefit Mr Hill.

**IMPRISONMENT FOR DEBT.**—Amongst the most important of the provisions in the act to amend the law of insolvency, bankruptcy, and execution, which on Friday received the royal assent, are those by which arrest upon final process upon any judgment obtained in any of her Majesty's superior courts, or in any county court, court of requests, or other inferior court, in any action for the recovery of any debt wherein the sum recovered shall not exceed the sum of £20, exclusive of the costs recovered by such judgment, is abolished; and persons now in execution on any such judgment—that is, where the debt recovered does not exceed £20, exclusive of costs—may, by application to a judge of one of her Majesty's superior courts of law at Westminster, or to the court in which the judgment was obtained, be forthwith discharged out of custody as to such execution, by an order of such judge or court. Provision is made for the imprisonment of persons in cases of fraud.

**STEAM NAVIES OF GREAT BRITAIN AND FRANCE.**—On the 1st of July last, there were in the royal navy 38 steamers of all classes in commission, 12 in ordinary, and 26 on the stocks, the total horse-power of which was in commission 13,941, 3,167 in ordinary, and 9,526 building. This is an increase since Sept. 1, 1841, of 36 vessels, 12,843 horse power. The French paper, *La Presse*, says, "France has 61,000 able seamen, 6,000 ships of burthen in her commercial marine, 24 packet steamers, 18 steamers in progress of completion, 43 steam-ships, of which 17 are ready for action, 29 frigates, and 23 ships of the line, besides many on the stocks."

**MONTHLY DESPATCH OF MAILED TO INDIA.**—We are informed on good authority that her Majesty's government are industriously engaged in the consideration of some important arrangements, tending to facilitate the overland communication with India, and the establishment of mails once a fortnight to and from our possessions in the East, instead of monthly as at present.—*Morning Herald*.

**POST OFFICE MONEY ORDERS.**—In the money order office the duty continues to increase, and the amount of cash received and paid, as well of course as the amount of poundage or commission, was greater up to the 5th of last month (the official quarter day) than has ever yet been known. Inquiries are being made in this branch of the service whether any more simple method can be devised of preparing, receiving, and checking the advices, as no further business can be done in this branch of the office without either a considerable increase of officers or a much more simple mode of performing the duty.

**EXPLOSIVE INVENTIONS.**—In Saturday's *Times* is the following letter, signed "J. M. N.":—

Having seen much of late in the papers respecting Captain Warner's invention for the destruction of vessels, I beg to send you a few lines upon the success of an experiment which I witnessed during last autumn at New York. A person of the name of Colt applied to the United States government to purchase an invention of which he was the author, and which had for its object the blowing up, by some invisible means, of any given vessel. The government attended to this proposition, and, in consequence, several vessels were destroyed as a proof of his power. I saw one of these explosions; the vessel was an old brig of about 200 tons; she was moored some distance from the shore in the bay of New York, while the operator took up his position upon Governor's island, a small island about three quarters of a mile distant from the brig. At a given signal the vessel was blown to pieces, not one timber remaining on another above the water's edge. I myself heard Mr Colt declare, that if a fleet of men of war were to enter the bay he could single out any vessel he chose and destroy her as easily. I cannot speak for certain as to the purchase of this secret by the United States government, but of the power to destroy vessels which Mr Colt possesses I am fully assured.

**THE WEATHER AND HARVEST.**—August has set in with a good deal of rain; but as the weather has been merely showery, with warm sunshine, the accounts from the agricultural districts are not as yet unfavourable. The wet, however, has delayed harvesting in parts. In some respects the rain has been very beneficial; especially in enabling the farmers to sow their turnip-seed, which the previous dry weather prevented. Should the sky clear shortly, an abundant harvest will be reaped. In Ireland, uneasiness is felt lest the rain should continue to fall for any considerable time longer.

Father Mathew still continues to labour in the completion of the great moral revolution which he has so successfully commenced in Ireland. On the 14th inst, he visited Pouladuve, and addressed a "monster" meeting assembled in a large field. Several batches, each containing from 200 to 300 persons, were during the day enrolled as total abstainers.

Captain James Wemyss, R.N., has presented to the Queen a pair of Mexican pheasants, said to be the only birds of this rare species which have ever reached England alive. The Earl of Orkney has also presented to her Majesty two beautiful emus, bred by himself.

**THE LAD THAT BECAME LORD CHANCELLOR.**—“Mr Surtees,” said Lord Eldon to his wife's nephew, “when your father and I were boys (and that is now a long time ago) I remember our stealing down the Side, and along the Sandhill, and creeping into every shop, where we blew out the candles. We crept along the counter; then popped our heads up; out went the candles and away went we. We escaped detection.”—*Twiss's Life of Lord Eldon*.

**AMNESTY TO THE POLISH REFUGEES.**—During the recent visit of the Emperor of Russia to this country, several of the Polish refugees in London and Paris petitioned his Majesty for permission to return to their native country. They received no reply to their petitions until the 31st ult., when 18 or 20 of the number now residing in London received a notice to call at the office of the Russian ambassador, the purport of which was that they might return to Poland, but under certain conditions. The conditions are, that they are first to proceed through Holland, and thence direct to Kowno, in Russia, there to undergo an examination for alleged state crimes; and unless any charge other than a mere participation in the insurrection is proved against them, they will be at once set at liberty. Many of the Poles, however, have not accepted the terms.

**COTTAGE ALLOTMENTS.**—It is a remarkable and highly gratifying testimony to the value and moral tendency of the allotment system in the agricultural districts, that where the practice of allotments to labourers has been generally acted upon no incendiary fires have taken place.

## DOMESTIC.

## METROPOLITAN.

THE ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE, after an interval of five weeks, held their last meeting for the season in Covent Garden theatre, on Wednesday. As usual, the theatre was crowded. Mr Wilson, the chairman, gave an account of the League's proceedings; for they had been busy, though the newspapers were not so prominently occupied with their reports. They had been attending to the ill-managed registration of parliamentary electors in one hundred and forty boroughs; and they had held several public meetings about the country. The exertions of the Registration Association in London had, Mr Wilson believed, provided against the return hereafter of any monopolist for the metropolitan boroughs, while in South Lancashire matters were equally satisfactory. At a meeting in Northampton, Mr Stafford O'Brien, the member, had declined to attend; and Mr Feargus O'Connor, who was supported by Mr O'Brien's usual supporters, opposed the League, but was defeated. Mr Milner Gibson followed, and drew attention to the condition of the agricultural population; and commented, with considerable humour, upon the conduct of their opponents. In the course of his remarks, he adverted to the subject of war in connexion with the landed interest:—

He had observed of late among the landed party a great deal of jealousy of what was called the national honour [hear, hear]. It was quite remarkable what extreme sensitiveness had grown up of a sudden amongst the gentlemen who dealt in provisions [a laugh], as to the importance of maintaining the national honour [hear, hear]. They seemed to be quite in training, to be getting themselves into fighting condition. What was the meaning of all this? The meaning of it was, that war meant high rents [hear, hear]. High prices of corn had ever been the consequence of this country being engaged in hostilities with foreign powers [hear, hear]. And then a great deal of patronage flowed into the hands of government whenever a war broke out [hear, hear]; and of this patronage, moreover, the landed gentry, the victualers [a laugh], always got a large slice [hear, hear]. The community might be impoverished by excessive taxation, the greatest woes might befall the nation, but many of the landed proprietors cared not, for they contemplated their own profits, and heeded nothing else [hear]. And then, said the advocates of war, how exceedingly convenient to get rid of the surplus population that we don't know what else to do with [hear, hear]. He believed in his conscience that there was a party in this country, represented by the *Morning Post*, who would give anything to get up an anti-French feeling here, for no purpose whatever but to raise the price of corn [hear, hear]. The breaking out of war would not incommodate them; they did not fight themselves; they sent others forth to battle. All they would do would be to receive the increased price of the corn [hear, hear]. Another advantage they contemplated in war was, that it might divert the attention of the public from certain movements now actively in progress, which made them very uneasy [hear, hear].

Mr Cobden then addressed the meeting; and showed how the farmers had been the victims of the "artful dodges" of those whose object it was to keep up rents. He adverted to the prospect of an abundant harvest, and the effect it was likely to produce in the manufacturing and agricultural districts respectively:—

There were crops now on the surface of the country which, let them once be safely housed, might, in less than six months, bring down the price of corn lower than it would be under a perfectly free trade [hear, hear]. Would the farmers be consoled by the landlords telling them to wait a year or two and all would be well again? Not they; for the landlords would by no means reduce the rents, according to the low price of corn, in the same way that they had raised the rents, according to the high price of the article four or five years back [hear, hear]. Much had been said, and most justly, about the wretched condition of the agricultural labourers at the present moment: the only mistake was in imagining that the condition of the agricultural labourers was only bad just at the present moment. He was prepared, from authentic documents, to prove that the condition of these labourers was as bad at the time the landlords were receiving scarcity rents, and a scarcity price was paid for corn, as was the condition of the manufacturing labourers; the only difference was that the enormous cry of the densely populated districts of Lancashire, stifled the cry which would otherwise have arisen from the more segregated misery of the agricultural districts [hear, hear]. In the very dear years the poor-rates were higher in some of the purely agricultural localities than in the manufacturing districts [hear, hear]. That evening the League took its leave of the metropolis for six months; let them therefore anticipate a little what they might expect to be going on in these six months in the two great sections of the community. In the manufacturing districts, supposing provisions to remain at only the moderate prices of the past year; but more especially if, the harvest being got in, wheat came down, as it might well be expected to do, there would be great activity in all sorts of manufactures, in the shipping ports, and in the home trade. They would hear of strikes for the advance of wages, where only three years back thousands and tens of thousands of men were wandering about the streets in search of employment, or working for a pittance on the roads. Within a recent period the spinners in Lancashire had twice struck for more wages, and had in each case got the advance [bravo]. He said bravo, too. He had often given advice to the men in the north about striking. He said, "Do not strike when corn is at 7s., for then you will not succeed; wait till it is at 4s. or so, and then you will do." Throughout the manufacturing districts there would be less and less disease, less and less pauperism, less and less crime, less and less mortality [hear, hear]; in all directions the manufacturing classes would be found devoting themselves to the promotion of mechanics' institutes, reading societies, museums, and the spread among themselves of moral and religious education—of intellectual advancement [hear, hear]. In a town in Lancashire, which he visited the other day, no fewer than one hundred additional members had joined the mechanics' institute of the place in one week [hear,

hear]. Public meetings would be held in all the other great towns, the same as had that day been held in Manchester, to arrange the formation of pleasure grounds for the use of the population [hear, hear]. On the other hand, in the agricultural districts, supposing the present crops to be got in, the farmers would be selling their wheat in their own country markets at from 4s. to 4s., and there would be a universal cry amongst them of unparalleled distress, and not unnaturally, for they would have to pay rents calculated on 6s. prices, out of from 4s. to 4s. And all this because they had trusted to a law which, no doubt, could for a time cause a high, scarcity price for corn, but which could not, in the nature of things, maintain that high price for any permanency. Mr Fox followed, and was the last of the speakers of the evening. He alluded, with spirited satire, to the assertions of the *Post* and *Herald*, that the League was dead, and its members scattered; and endeavoured to prove that it never possessed more vigorous life, nor more sanguine spirits, than at present. At the close, the chairman thanked the meeting for their attention; praised the decorum observed at that and previous meetings; and, with a solemn blessing, bade the assemblage farewell for the present session.

MR DYCE SOMBRE.—The lord chancellor gave judgment in Mr Dyce Sombre's case on Thursday. Mr Sombre had petitioned that the commission of lunacy obtained against him might be superseded; the chancellor has dismissed this petition—he considered that the lunacy of Mr Sombre was proved by the highest authorities.

SALE OF THE DUKE OF SUSSEX'S LIBRARY.—At the sale of Bibles and Testaments of the late Duke of Sussex, the number of lots was 2,074, and the number of Bibles 1,009; of these 294 were English, 259 Latin, 79 French, 26 Greek, 80 German and Flemish, and 176 in various languages. The number of New Testaments disposed of was 610; of these 227 were Greek, 73 English, 61 French, 51 Latin, and 198 in various languages.

THE HARVEST NEAR LONDON.—The harvest in the neighbourhood of Edgeware, Stanmore, Watford, &c., has been nearly got in, and in some places stacked. The wheat crop in some fields will be more than an average one. In some parts, considerable injury has been done to the uncut wheat by the high wind and heavy rain which prevailed during the latter part of last week. The second crop of hay, although much heavier than the first, still falls far short of an average crop. Turnips as yet look healthy, and to all appearance are free from the wire worm, so destructive to them. The barley, oats, and clover all look well; several fields have been cut, yielding more than an average crop. Altogether, the harvest in these parts of the counties of Middlesex and Hertfordshire is extremely good.

THE TICKETING SYSTEM.—At Marlborough street police office, on Wednesday, Mr Parkyn, the proprietor of a shawl warehouse in the Quadrant, was charged with an assault on Miss Starr. This young lady went into the shop to purchase a shawl which was marked at a very low price in the window; and having once got it into her hands, she was unwilling to part with it "to be put in paper," as she feared it might be changed for an inferior article. Mr Parkyn, assisted by a shopman, violently took it from her, and grossly abused her. The magistrate said it was evident the shawl was marked at a price at which it was not intended to be sold; and Mr Parkyn was fined £4.

AN ELEPHANT AUCTION.—A number of persons were attracted to the St Katharine's dock-house on Tuesday, to see "Tom Thumb sold by auction." This novel kind of lot turned out to be an infant elephant, just arrived in the John Bartlett, East Indiaman, and of such miniature proportions as to have received the above popular cognomen. He is of the highest caste, is only 20 months old, and probably the most diminutive example of his colossal race that has yet reached this country. It was purchased by Mr Warwick, the late superintendent of the Surrey gardens, for the new zoological establishment at the eastern part of London, near the New Victoria park.

DISCOVERY OF ANTIQUITIES.—Last week in Bread street hill, London, and neighbouring localities, the workmen employed in excavations discovered extensive Roman remains—walls covered with fresco painting, the barrier wall to prevent the overflow of the Thames, lamps and coins, and other relics of the Roman occupation of England. The barrier-wall consisted of massive stones of from eight to nine cwt each, supported by piles of wood.

CURIOS OLD HOUSE.—Among the various buildings in West street, formerly Chick lane, now about to be pulled down for the Clerkenwell improvements, is a house, supposed to have been built at least 300 years ago, once known as the Red Lion tavern, but for the past century used as a lodging-house, and the known resort of thieves and the lowest grade of the frail sisterhood. It is situated on the west side of the Fleet river, now called the Fleet ditch, and used as a common sewer; and from its remarkable adaptation as a hiding-place, with its various means of escape, it is well deserving a visit of the curious. Its dark closets, trap doors, sliding panels, secret recesses and hiding places, no doubt rendered it one of the most secure places for robbery and murder. It was here that a chimney-sweep named Jones, who escaped out of Newgate about three years since, was so securely hidden, that although the house was repeatedly searched by the police, he was never discovered till it was divulged by one of the inmates, who, incautiously observing that he knew whereabouts Jones was concealed, was taken up, and remanded from time to time as an accessory to his escape, but when at last tired of prison fare and prison discipline, pointed out the

place to obtain his own liberty. He was concealed by parting off a portion of a cellar with brickwork, well besmeared with soot and dirt to prevent detection. This cell, or more properly den, is about four feet wide by nine in depth; and during Jones's incarceration therein, he had food conveyed to him through a small aperture by a brick or two left out next the rafters. It was here, about seven years since, that a sailor was robbed, and afterwards hung naked through one of the convenient apertures in the wall into the sewer, for which two men and a woman were transported for fourteen years. A skull and numerous human bones have been found in the cellars, some of which have been taken away by Mr Taylor, the police medical officer. On one occasion, though the premises were surrounded by seven police officers, a thief made his escape by its communication with the adjoining houses, which were all let out to the lowest characters. Numerous parties daily visit the premises, among whom have been the Duke of Cambridge, and many of the police and county magistrates. The only means of admission was by tickets issued by Mr Wakeling, vestry clerk of St James's, of which a very limited number only was circulated.

One of the inmates of the Metropolitan Benefit Societies' Asylum, at Ball's pond, Dalston, has given birth to no fewer than thirty-two children. On one occasion she was confined with four, on two with three children at a birth, besides at other times having given birth to twins.—*Morning Post*.

NOVEL USE OF ICE IN VENTILATION.—A course of experiments has been going on at the Hanover Square rooms, with a view to their more complete ventilation. The process selected as the most complete is that of Mr Day, who calls into his aid the Archimedean screw, by which fresh air is forced into an apartment of any size, without causing the slightest perceptible draught. On the last occasion of her Majesty's visit to these rooms, during the performance of the Ancient Concerts, and when attended by the King of Saxony and other distinguished persons, this scientific process was tried, and, although the atmosphere externally was 69 to 70 degrees during the whole of the evening, that of the *salon* scarcely exceeded 70 degrees, although it was densely crowded and highly illuminated with gas. This novelty in the history of ventilation was effected by the air being passed through trays of ice. The comfort arising from so agreeable a temperature has determined the proprietors to resort to the same means on all similar occasions in future.

Mr Belaney, the surgeon charged with the murder of his wife, was committed for trial on Wednesday, at the Thames police-office.

## PROVINCIAL.

STATE OF TRADE.—We do not remember at any time greater activity in the principal branches of manufactures than there exists at present, except when that activity has been of a speculative and feverish character. Throughout Yorkshire and Lancashire, in the cotton, woolen, worsted, flax, linen, silk, cutlery, and machine-making businesses, trade is lively, and we believe all hands are employed. The poor rates are, of course, exceedingly relieved. We may state as a specimen that, in the Huddersfield union, the number of out door paupers relieved was as follows:—

In the quarter ending June 24, 1843	....	12,229
do.	do.	1844, ..., 6,083

Diminution .....	6,146
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or more than one-half.

If we should be blessed with a good harvest, there is every prospect of another year of prosperity. And here we have another proof of the connexion between prosperity and cheap food. At present there is the prospect of an abundant harvest.—*Leeds Mercury*.

INCENDIARISM.—There were ten cases of arson for trial at the Norwich assizes; in four of which the prisoners were convicted, two were acquitted, and the bills against the other four were ignored. At Guildford, on Saturday, two youths of seventeen were found guilty of firing a quantity of heath and furze at Godalming.

THE PITMEN'S STRIKE.—A Newcastle correspondent writes as follows, in reference to a paragraph in our last number, copied from the *Shipping Gazette*:—In your last is inserted a paragraph from a correspondent, to the effect that the pitmen's strike had terminated. I only wish I could corroborate such a statement; but such is not the case. The fact is, the men appear to be as far from a settlement as ever; even now, while I write, great numbers of them are parading our streets, determined to gain the day, or die in the conflict. It certainly is true that some have returned to work; but that number is small, and even some of these, by a placard issued yesterday, have returned and joined the Union. The effects are severely felt here.

LIVERPOOL MECHANICS' INSTITUTION EXHIBITION.—This exhibition closed on Saturday last, after having been open for a period of six weeks, during which time it has been probably visited by nearly 100,000 persons. As yet, however, we have not been able to ascertain the precise number. Of season tickets there were sold, at 2s. 6d., 3312, and, at 5s., 888. The total numbers of persons who descended in the diving bell was 3187. The total amount of money received was £4,069 12s. 11d. The greatest amount received in one day was £152 3s. 3d., and the least £50 9s. 6d.—*Liverpool Times*.

Mr H. Stephens, the eminent London ink manufacturer, has obtained from a United States jury a verdict against D. and W. Felt, of New York, 2,000 dollars damages, for their manufacture of the "blue writing fluid." Mr S. has a patent for the United States as well as for this country.

**LONDON AND BIRMINGHAM RAILWAY.**—The traffic on this line for the week ending Saturday last, produced the enormous sum of £22,067 16s. 5d., of which no less than £17,890 were derived from passengers alone. This is the largest amount ever taken in the same space of time upon any railway in the world. It is at the rate of £185 per mile. The nearest approach to the total receipts was on the Great Western railway in Ascot week; but then the Great Western and its branches are upwards of 220 miles in length, whereas the Birmingham, with its Aylesbury branch, is only 120.—*Railway Record*.

**ANOTHER MONSTER TRAIN.**—A special pleasure train of the Manchester and Leeds railway left Wakefield for Hull on Monday last, consisting of ninety-seven carriages, with the extraordinary, and, we believe, unprecedented number of 4000 passengers. Not the slightest accident occurred, and the parties returned at night within half an hour of the appointed time, the whole highly delighted, and grateful for a cheap and pleasant trip.—*Leeds Mercury*.

**PUBLIC PARKS, &c.**—The Manchester papers are urging the formation of public parks and other places of recreation, and of public baths, in that densely-peopled and ill-ventilated capital of the manufacturing world. The *Guardian* recommends that four pleasure-grounds of this description should be formed in the environs of the town, one on each side, and that they should not contain less than from twenty to five and twenty acres each; this, however, being merely a beginning. The cost is estimated at from £30,000 to £50,000, and we are glad to learn, from a well-informed Manchester gentleman, that there is every disposition in that great and wealthy town to subscribe to this object liberally. It is also proposed to form public baths for the use of the labouring classes, whose occupations render bathing very essential to health, while the formation of mills and dye-houses on every stream near Manchester has destroyed all the natural conveniences for bathing. In pursuance of this very laudable object, a public meeting was held at Manchester on Thursday. The Mayor presided, and Lord Francis Egerton and other gentlemen spoke. Nearly £10,000 was subscribed. The following are particulars of some of the sums subscribed at the meeting:—Lord Francis Egerton, £1000; Mark Philips, Esq., M.P., £1000; Sir Benjamin Heywood, £1000; Sir Thomas Potter, £500; James Collier Harter, £500; John Brooks, Esq., £500; Townend and Higson, £500; Thomas Hoyle and Sons, £500; J. and N. Phillips and Co., £500; James Heywood, Esq., £300; the Mayor, £200; James Kershaw and Co., £500. This is an excellent start, and we trust the spirited example of the men of Manchester will be extensively imitated. Mr Robert Gardner, who was one of the speakers, in referring to the ten-hour question, said he thought the working classes had gone too far in trying to get to ten hours at once. He had commenced working his hands eleven hours as a beginning, and he was rejoiced to find that they earned as much money as before [applause].

**THE QUI TAM ACTIONS.**—The first of the *qui tam* actions for betting, brought by Russell the solicitor, was tried at Guildford on Thursday. Lord George Bentinck, the defendant, did not plead the late act passed to stop these proceedings in bar of this action; he wished the affair to be gone into. The case for the plaintiff was, that Lord George Bentinck betted certain sums with Mr John Gully, as the agent of John Day the trainer; Day being the loser. When Mr Gully was examined, however, it appeared that he made the bets for himself, and afterwards transferred them to Day; he still being answerable to Lord George. On this, the action broke down. The Court was kept in constant laughter during the examination of Day, by his endeavours to escape from answering the questions put to him: he wished to "protect his friends." Another witness, amidst laughter in which the Judge joined, said he had burnt his betting book as soon as he heard of these *qui tam* actions: he had won largely; but his memory was burnt with his book.

**FIRE DAMP.**—On the evening of Thursday, the 1st inst, a dreadful explosion of fire-damp occurred at Eaglesbush colliery, near Neath, the property of George Penrose, Esq. Upon inquiry, it appeared that nine men were injured, seven of them so seriously, that it is very doubtful whether they will recover.—*Cambrian*.

**DREADFUL HURRICANE.**—A hurricane visited divers parts of the coast on Saturday and Sunday, and caused a great destruction of shipping and loss of life. Several vessels were driven ashore at Tenby, and six lives were lost. At Llanelli, on Saturday morning, the Friends, a fine vessel belonging to Ilfracombe, was totally lost on the Ceyen sands, in Carmarthen bay. The captain, his wife, and the whole of the crew, were drowned. The Briton steam-tug parted from her moorings, and sank near the harbour. At Bristol the hurricane was tremendous, with heavy rain, thunder, and lightning: trifling injury, however, was done. At Teignmouth, Torbay, and Newport, the storm was equally severe. At Milford small vessel was lost with all hands. Great damage has been done all along the southern coast; and it is feared that many lives have been lost. The *Kentish Mercury* reports that six or seven bodies have been washed ashore.

**DREADFUL OCCURRENCE AND LOSS OF LIFE AT THE EXECUTION OF A MURDERER.**—On Wednesday morning, the sentence of the law was carried into effect, in front of the county gaol, Nottingham, upon William Saville, aged 29, who was convicted at the late assizes of the wilful murder of his wife and three children (aged respectively 7, 5, and 4 years), by cutting their throats. Since the passing of the sentence, the culprit has evinced the utmost want of feeling and indifference to his approaching fate. When he left the dock, after his condemnation, on observing seve-

ral persons in the apartment below, he pointed to his neck—gave a shrug—and uttered a clucking sound, to intimate that he was to be hanged. On the night preceding his execution, he appeared in good spirits, and his hardihood was as evident as ever. He requested to be called at five o'clock, at which hour he was awakened from a sound sleep. At seven he ate a hearty breakfast, and at twenty minutes to eight was removed to the grand jury room, where he was pinioned, and a pair of heavy irons placed upon his legs. The usual prayers were then said by the chaplain, the prisoner conducting himself with the utmost firmness, although at intervals he seemed deeply affected. He assisted the executioner in his preparatory operations, and shook hands with the turnkeys and several other persons. Seven or eight minutes were now wanting to eight o'clock, the hour appointed for the execution, which were spent in prayer. He desired the chaplain to tell the persons assembled that he acknowledged the justice of his sentence, and desired their prayers. At four minutes to eight, the culprit asked the governor of the gaol, with the utmost firmness, "Is it time?" and arose from his seat with alacrity to proceed to the scaffold. On standing up, however, he complained of the arrangement of a cord which suspended the irons, part of which were attached to his feet. On the annoyance being removed, the mournful procession approached the platform, when the murderer was received with the most appalling groans and execrations from the thousands who had flocked to see the last sentence of the law executed. The culprit stood quite firm; and the rope being adjusted with unusual celerity, the bolt was drawn, and he was launched into eternity. What followed is thus described by the *Nottingham Review*:

The crowd at this execution was immense; it was wonderful to see what countless thousands were packed on the pavement. As far as the eye could reach, nothing but the heads of men and women could be seen. Occasionally a cry was made, that a man, woman, or youth was fainting or being crushed to death, and if the individual were fortunate enough to have strength left, he or she was lifted up, and allowed to walk to the extremity of the crowd on the shoulders of the people. Soon after the criminal had dropped, the immense crowd burst in the middle. The greater portion of them having been standing for hours, packed like herrings in a barrel, they were anxious to escape from their uncomfortable position, for the purpose of obtaining fresh air, and a great rush was made from the centre, opposite to the drop; like a gun heavily charged and closely rammed, the explosion was tremendous and deadly. The greater portion of the doors of the houses in the street were closed, and those who were crushed by the flow of the immense tide of human beings had no means of escape. The effect of the crush was the most fatal near Malin hill, down which hundreds were hurried one at the top of the other, the consequence of which was that thirteen human beings were killed, and more than a hundred received serious injuries.

The immense and fatal rush we have alluded to was caused, we believe, principally by a gang of lawless scoundrels, who were drawn together from the town and various parts of the county. During the squeezing and pushing which took place previous to the execution, many persons had their pockets picked; and it is more than probable that the desire to create confusion for the purpose of carrying on their lawless vocation, may have principally led to the awful results we have described. Numbers of profligate villains were seen banded together in gangs, and the moment the drop fell a cry was raised, "Now for a good rush; push all together." These characters were joined by the great mass, who were as anxious for fresh air as the villains were for plunder and confusion, and the rush made was like the rushing of the tide, or the moving of a vast mass of sand in the desert, described by travelers as covering everything before it. Those who were looking out of the windows, on each side of the street, observed the rush, and foreseeing the consequences, screamed out to those behind to retreat. The Mayor was especially active; from one of his windows he put out a long lath, and waved it for those behind to retreat, and pocket-handkerchiefs, &c., were waved as signals by others. It was all of no use. Although the Mayor almost threw himself out of his window, for the purpose of staying the advance of the mob, very little heed appeared to be taken, and hundreds of individuals were thrown down, over whom the advancing crowd marched, without being able to help themselves. Heaps lay together, in a confused mass, on the pavement, opposite to the Charity school, which somewhat checked the advance, and then a rush was made down Garner's hill. Some one unfortunately fell down the steps, others followed, they knocked down persons who were before them, and crowds came rushing after, which quickly created inextricable confusion, and in a few minutes the narrow hill was completely choked up with a vast mass of people, lying one at the top of the other, which confusion was made worse by others behind, trying, for their own safety, to charge over them. It was an awful sight—men, women, and children lay smothered in vast heaps—some of those who were near the top had their clothes stripped off, or their limbs bruised or broken—females were seen naked, and almost dead—the moans of the dying were heard on every side—the screams of the injured rent the air—many who were only frightened, added to the universal clamour, and hundreds began to wail and weep, because they had missed their children, their wives, their sisters, or their husbands. Never before had such a sight been seen in Nottingham. In the midst of this distress, a monster snatched the ear-drops from the ears of a young woman, and other instances of violent robbery occurred. When, by the exertions of the mayor and other gentlemen, something like order had been restored, when the progress of destruction had been stayed, vast numbers went limping away to their homes without shoes, or hats, or bonnets. One man, dressed in a smock frock, was obliged to strip off his smock for the purpose of lending it to a woman, who had been left completely naked. The mob divided itself into groups, and each carried away an injured individual—some carrying persons dead or dying, and others reeling, faint, or sick. One poor man, after he had been taken from under one of the heaps, staggered, and fell three separate times, and the last time he fell, he was carried away for dead. The mayor

immediately opened his warehouse, in which a number of mutilated and distorted individuals were taken, whilst alive, where they were assiduously attended to by Mr Robert Davison, and Mr Stanger, surgeons. The yard and passages of his house were filled with others, and, in a few minutes, seven persons were laid together in the yard, quite dead, some having died in extreme agony, after having been taken from under the mass of beings who covered them. Too much praise cannot be given to the mayor for his exertions, or to Mr Davison, Mr Stanger, and to other medical gentlemen, who exerted themselves to the utmost during the whole of the day.

Out of twenty-three taken to the general hospital, three died in the course of the day. The scene at this and other institutions of the town during the day was truly distressing, by frantic parents and friends seeking their children or relatives.

#### NAMES OF THE DEAD.

Eliza Smithurst, aged 18; and Mary Stevenson (23), two sisters, of Daybrook, about four miles from Nottingham.

James Marshall (14), Isabella street, Nottingham.

John Bednell (14), Old Radford, near Nottingham.

James Fisher (23), son of Mr John Fisher, landlord of the Star inn, Bulwell. [This young man had saved two men from being crushed to death, and while in the act of stooping to take up a third man, he was pushed down, trodden upon, and killed.]

Eliza Hannah Shuttleworth (16), Albion street, Nottingham.

Mary Easthope (14), and her brother, Thomas Easthope (9), New Lenton.

Susannah Smedley (14), of Carlton, four miles from Nottingham, an orphan.

Thomas Watson (14), Kent street, Nottingham.

Eliza Percival (13), Convent street, Nottingham.

A female unknown, supposed to come from Eastwood, eight miles from Nottingham, between twenty and thirty years of age.

Melicent Shaw (19), from Kimberley.

It will be seen from the above list that no fewer than thirteen persons have lost their lives, by being literally crushed or trampled to death.

The jury assembled at the watch house at five o'clock, and, after identifying the bodies, adjourned to eight o'clock on Friday morning.

There are nineteen now lying at the hospital, many of them in a dangerous state.

The inquest on the bodies of the unfortunate persons who perished in so melancholy a manner at the Nottingham execution, concluded in the following verdict:—"The jury are of opinion that the deceased individuals were accidentally thrown down in and by a crowd of people who had been attending a public execution in the town of Nottingham, and were then and there trampled to death or suffocated." It was then unanimously added, that "the jury are of opinion that the front of the county hall is a most improper place for a public execution, and they trust the persons who have the authority to fix upon a place for that purpose will not allow another execution to take place there." An expression of censure was carried by a majority of two, in the following terms:—"A majority of the jury at the same time express their opinion that, considering the extensive excitement which prevailed, sufficient precaution was not taken by the proper authorities to prevent accident."

**IMPRISONMENT FOR DEBT.**—It appears that the gross total number of persons who are or were in February last imprisoned for debt in the United Kingdom at large amounts to 8,352, of whom 2,154 were confined in England and Wales, 85 only in Scotland, and 1,113 in Ireland. The total number imprisoned for debts (exclusive of costs) under 1*l.* amounted to 210; under 5*l.*, to 794; under 10*l.*, to 483; under 50*l.*, to 922; under 100*l.*, to 249; under 500*l.*, to 295; above 500*l.*, to 104, and 36 for amounts not stated in the returns before us. As many as 266 persons were imprisoned for offences against the revenue laws, and 85 prisoners who had been confined more than five years—namely, 78 in England and seven in Ireland. Nearly one-half of the prisoners, or 1,469, were (exclusive of costs) confined for debts under 10*l.* One prisoner is mentioned as having been imprisoned within the Queen's Prison for 82 years, at an annual expense to the county of 9*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*!

**RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.**—The report of the railway department of the Board of Trade for the past year furnishes the following comparison of railroad accidents, attended with danger to the passenger public, since the department has been in operation:—

Years.	Accidents	Persons killed.	Persons hurt.
1840 { Estimated by doubling the last five months	56	44	282
1841 .....	29	25	72
1842 .....	10	5	14
1843 .....	5	3	3

Of the three persons killed in 1843, one only, it is stated, was a passenger not being himself to blame. These are figures which speak for themselves.

**THE COVICT DALMAS.**—The convict Dalmas has been removed, by order of the secretary of state for the home department, from the Milbank penitentiary to the insane ward of the Bethlem hospital, there to be confined during her Majesty's pleasure as a lunatic. The report of the medical gentlemen who have daily visited Dalmas since his incarceration in the penitentiary, leave but little or any doubt of his insanity.—*Standard*.

Thirty-six thousand West India pines have been sold by auction in London during the present season, the best quality averaging from three to five shillings and sixpence each, whilst those of the inferior quality sold at sixpence to twopence. Live turtle from the same quarter has been sold at one shilling and sixpence per lb in the shell.

The sale of the Duke of Sussex's library has produced no more than £10,000.

## IRELAND.

PUGILISTIC ENCOUNTER ON THE BENCH.—A Birr (King's county) correspondent of the *Tipperary Vindicator* writes as follows:—"A rich scene occurred on the bench of the petty sessions court shortly after Sir W. Lynar had retired. Mr Philip Drought, a deservedly popular magistrate, playfully applied a rod which he had in his hand to the back of Sir Edward Synge, who was sitting in front of him, when the baronet, suddenly turning round, and throwing himself into a pugilistic attitude, popped in his right and left, fibbing Mr Drought in a style that would have done credit to 'Deaf Burke' or the 'Tipton Slasher.' Queer things have sometimes been acted even on the bench, but such an exhibition as a 'mill' or 'sparring match' has seldom come off in a court of justice." Another Irish paper gives an account of a "fight in a jury room."

EXECUTION—ROSCOMMON, AUGUST 8.—At half-past 12 o'clock yesterday, pursuant to the respite, Catherine Brien and Bridget Langan were executed in front of the county gaol. There were not less than 7,000 persons present, and of these one half, at least, were women. Catharine Brien laughed, and saluted those she met on her way to the execution-room, and appeared in good health and spirits; she protested that she had neither hand, act, nor part in the murder, but did not deny that she knew of it, and therefore admitted the knowledge of all that took place. Bridget Langan appeared rather weak and depressed, admitted her guilt, and stated that she murdered her brother-in-law, and that she was anxious, along with her sister, to forgive all her prosecutors. Long dresses had been prepared for both convicts, with running strings at the foot of each dress. They were both put into coffins, and interred within the gaol. Bridget Langan's husband and sister-in-law were present, as well as their mother, and remained at the door of the gaol till their clothes were given to them; they appeared not to feel their situation.

## SCOTLAND.

## THE BURNS FESTIVAL.

The Burns festival is past. It was not, perhaps, all that everybody hoped, but still a striking and spirit-stirring event. The day, Tuesday last, opened brilliantly. The scene was a field near Ayr, on the banks of "bonnie Doon," and in the very midst of the place where Tam o'Shanter saw such sights. The idea of the festival was first suggested by the arrival of Colonel Burns in Scotland, after an absence of nearly thirty years in India. At the outset, it was intended merely as an entertainment to the Colonel by the people of Ayrshire; but, as the affair became known, hints came from various quarters—chiefly from Edinburgh—to the effect that, as all the surviving sons of the poet were in the kingdom, it would be better to have a more extensive demonstration than that contemplated. This completely altered its local character, and imparted to it all the reality and importance of a national commemoration in honour of the ploughman bard, as well as a welcome to his sons. The result has been, a cordial response from all quarters of the kingdom, presenting a living manifestation of the influence which the writings of Burns exert over the national mind. For the main body of diners, a pavilion calculated to accommodate two thousand persons was erected, and ornamented with flags; booths supplied the poorer visitors with refreshments. Early in the day people flocked from all parts, in steamers, sailing-vessels, steam-carriages—on horseback—afoot. At eleven o'clock they formed in long procession, at the Low Green, by the sea-side, and, headed by bands playing the airs of Burns's songs, marched to the field, where, led by professional singers, the whole company sang "Ye banks and braes o' bonnie Doon," and "Auld lang syne." Bands and bagpipes were then dispersed over the field, and dances were formed; while the pavilion-folks sat down to their banquet.

The chief guests were Burns's relatives—his sons; Robert, lately in the Stamp office at Somerset house, Colonel Burns, and Major Burns; and his sister, Mrs Begg, with her son and two daughters. Mrs Thompson, the "Jessie Lewars" of his verse, was also there, with her husband. The Earl of Eglington presided; Professor Wilson was croupier. Mr Sheriff Alison and some leading Scotchmen were among those who came to render homage due; but of the eminent literary men invited from a distance few attended. After the usual toasts, the chairman proposed, "The memory of Burns," which was received with enthusiastic cheering.

This is not (he said) a meeting for the purpose of recreation and amusement; it is not a banquet at which a certain number of toasts printed on paper are to be proposed and responded to, which to-day marks our preparation; it is the enthusiastic desire of a whole people to pay honour to their countryman; it is the spontaneous offering of a nation's feelings towards the illustrious dead, and, added to this, the desire to extend a hand of welcome and friendship to those whom he has left behind [tremendous applause]. Here, on the very spot where he first drew breath, on the very ground which his genius has hallowed, beside the old kirk of Alloway, which his verse has immortalised, beneath the monument which an admiring and repentant people have raised to him [great applause]—we meet, after the lapse of years, to pay our homage to the man of genius [loud cheers]. The master mind who has sung the "Isle of Palms"—who has reveled in the immortal "Noctes"—who has already done that justice to the memory of the bard which a brother poet can alone do—Christopher himself is here [great applause], anxious to pay his tribute of admiration to a kindred spirit. The historian who has depicted the most eventful period of the French empire—the glorious triumphs of Wellington—is here [cheers]—Clio, as it were, offering up a garland to Erato [cheers]. The distinguished head of the Scottish bar is here [cheers]—in short, every town and every district,

every class, every sex, and every age, have come forward to pay homage to their poet. The honest lads whom he so praised, and whose greatest boast is to belong to the land of Burns, are here [cheers]. The bonny lasses whom he so praised—those whom he loved and sung—are here; they have followed hither to justify, by their loveliness, the poet's worth [great applause]; while the descendant of those who dwelt in the "castle of Montgomerie" feels himself only too highly honoured in being permitted to propose the memory of him who then wandered there unknown on the banks of the Fail [loud cheering]. How little the pious old man who dwelt in yonder cottage—with his "lyart haffets" o'er-spreading his venerable brow, when he read the "big ha' bible"—could have guessed that the infant prattling on his knee was to be the pride of his nation—the chief among the poetic band—was to be one of the brightest planets that glows around the mighty sun of the bard of Avon [cheers] in knowledge and originality—second to none in the fervent expression of deep feeling, in the genuine perception of the beauties of nature, and equal to any who revels in the fairy land of poetry [cheers]. Well may we rejoice that Burns is our own—that no other spot can claim to be the birthplace of our Homer except the spot on which we stand [cheers]. Oh! that he could have foreseen the futurity of fame created for him this day, when the poet and the historian, the peer and the peasant, vie with each other in paying the tribute of their admiration to the humble but mighty genius of him whom we hail as the first of Scottish poets [cheers].

Professor Wilson followed, and was received with great cheering:

It was customary, you know, in former times, to crown great poets. No such ovation honoured our bard; yet he, too, tasted of human applause—he enjoyed its delights, and he saw the trials that attended it. Which, think you, would he himself have preferred? Such a celebration as this in his lifetime, or fifty years after his death? I cannot doubt that he would have preferred the posthumous, because the finer incense [cheers]. The honour and its object are thus seen in their just proportions; for death gives an elevation which the candid soul of the poet would himself have considered, and that honour he would have reserved rather for his *manes* than encountered it with his living infirmities [cheers]. And yet, could he have foreseen the day when they for whom his soul was often sorely troubled, should, after many years of separation, return to the hut where himself was born, and near it, within the shadow of his own monument, be welcomed for his sake by the lords and ladies of the land; and dearer still, far dearer to his manly breast, by the children and the children's children of people of his own degree, whose hearts he sought to thrill by the voice of his own inspirations, then surely would such a vision have been sweeter to his soul even than that immortal one in which the genius of the land bound holly round his forehead—the lilac-leaved crown that shall flourish for ever [cheers]. Of his three sons now sitting here, one only, I believe, can remember his father's face—can remember those large, lustrous eyes of his, so full of meaning, so full of melting in melancholy, or kindling in mirth, but never turned on his children, nor the mother of his children, but with one expression of tenderest, or most intense affection [cheers]. Even at this day, he, too, may remember his father's head with its dark clusters, not unmixed with gray, and those eyes closed for ever, lying upon the bed of death; nor, should such solemn image arise, would it be unsuitable to this festival; for while I bid welcome to the sons of Burns to their father's land, I feel, I cannot but feel, that while you have conferred upon me a high honour, you have also imposed upon me a sacred duty; and, however inadequately I may discharge it, I at least shall in no degree militate either the spirit of humanity or truth [cheers]. In speaking of the character of Burns in the presence of his sons I must speak reverently; but even in their presence I must not refuse to speak the truth [cheers]. I must speak according to the established and everlasting judgment of what is right. Burns had his faults: Burns, like every other mortal, had his faults: great faults in the eyes of men, and grievous in the eyes of Heaven above us. There is a moral in every man's life, even in his humblest condition, imperfectly understood; and how affecting is it when we read confessions wrung out by remorse from the souls of the greatly gifted and the gloriously endowed [loud cheers]!

He afterwards referred to the deep and universal attachment of the working classes of Scotland to their native bard:

I shall not pretend to draw their character; this, however, I may say of them now, and boldly, that they do not choose to be dictated to as to the choice of those who with them shall be a household word. They are men from whose hands easier would it be to wrench the weapon than ever to wrench their worship from their hearts. They are men who love truth, sincerity, integrity, resolution, and independence—an open front and a bold eye, that fears not to look in the face of day. They do not demand in one and the same person inconsistent virtues; they are no lovers of perfection or of perfectibility; they know that there are fainter and darker shadows in the character of every man; and they seem, as we look back on our history, to have loved most those who have been subject most, within and without, to strong and severe temptation. Whether in triumph or in valour, they have shown at least, by the complexion of the character of their souls, that they loved their country, and had no other passion so strong as their admiration for those who have devoted their energies, and contributed all their powers, to the advancement of the people [loud cheers]. They also, unless I am much mistaken, love those who have struggled with adversity. They love those who have had their trials—their sorrows—and their failings; and most of all do they love those who are not ashamed of confessing that they are so afflicted, and who throw themselves upon common feeling for forgiveness here below, and trust for that forgiveness above to that source from which alone it can flow. The love of the people of Scotland for those whom they have loved has not been exclusive—it has been comprehensive. They studied the appearances of their different characters, and honoured them for every advance they made, provided they saw in them strength of character, moral and intellectual. Such a people as this, possessing such feelings, could not but look upon Robert Burns, and, whilst they admired him, they also loved him with the truest affection, as well for the virtues as for the sorrows and the griefs of that great, but in some respects unfortunate, man. Was he worthy of their love—then why did they love him? They loved him because he loved

his own order, nor ever desired, for a single hour, to quit it [applause]. They loved him because he loved the very humblest condition of humanity, so much so, that by his connexion he saw more truly, and became more distinctly acquainted with, what was truly good, and imbued with the spirit of love in the soul of a man. They loved him for that which he had sometimes been most absurdly questioned for—his independence [applause]. They loved him for bringing sunshine into dark places—not for representing the poor hardworking man as an object of pity, but for showing that there was something more than is dreamed of in the world's philosophy amongst the tillers of the soil, and the humblest children of the poor. From such a character as that which I have truly given of Scotland's people, one would expect that all their poetry would be of a stern or furious kind—the poetry only of bloodshed and destruction; but it was not so, nor is it so, but with some glorious exceptions, in the poetry of Burns.

The toasts of "The memory of Burns," and "Welcome home to the sons of Burns," were acknowledged, in plain and brief speeches, by Mr Robert Burns; who pleasantly contrasted the modest obscurity of the children with the lustre of the father's fame—observing that genius, especially poetical genius, was not hereditary; and that in this case the mantle of Elijah had not descended upon Elisha.

ARCHIBALD ALISON, Esq., sheriff of Lanarkshire, proposed the next toast:

Your kindness and that of the committee has entrusted to me the memory of three illustrious men—the far-famed successors of Burns, who have drank deep at the fountains of his genius, and proved themselves the worthy inheritors of his inspiration [applause]. And Scotland, I rejoice to say, can claim them all as her own. For if the Tweed has been immortalised by the grave of Scott, the Clyde can boast the birth-place of Campbell, and the mountains of the Dee first inspired the muse of Byron [loud cheers]. I rejoice at that burst of patriotic feeling; I hail it as a presage that as Ayrshire has raised a fitting monument to Burns, and Edinburgh has erected a fitting structure to the author of *Waverley*, so Glasgow will, ere long, raise a worthy monument to the bard whose name will never die while hope pours its balm through the human heart; and Aberdeen will worthily commemorate the far-famed traveler who first inhaled the inspiration of nature amidst the clouds of Lochagar, and afterwards poured the light of his genius over those lands of the sun where his descending orb sets—

"Not as in northern climes obscurely bright,  
But one unclouded blaze of living light."

He descended at some length, and with much beauty, on the merits of these poets. Other toasts followed; before the feasting was over, the day was overcast, and at five o'clock the rain fell heavily. The guests parted at six; and each went his way, we doubt not, a wiser but not a sadder man.

MONUMENT TO THE POLITICAL MARTYRS.—We hear with much satisfaction, that an admirable site for the monument to Muir, Palmer, Gerrald, Skiving, and Margarot in Edinburgh, has at last been obtained on the Calton Hill; and that the foundation stone is to be laid by Mr Hume, M.P., on Wednesday the 21st of this month. To the £300 originally contributed to the Edinburgh monument by the London committee, £300 more is to be added from the same source, in consideration of the conspicuous site which the Edinburgh committee has been so fortunate as to obtain; so that the monument will probably be raised nearly 120 feet high. From the North Bridge, the Mound, and many other places, it will be seen to great advantage—towering above every monument or building in its vicinity, the symbol of the victory of liberal principles over the old tory persecuting spirit, the triumph of justice over injustice. The following is part of an advertisement in the *Edinburgh Weekly Chronicle* of Saturday. "The council of the complete suffrage union have agreed to walk in procession on that occasion, and will be happy to be joined by all those who desire to honour the memory of these illustrious patriots. It is not contemplated to carry banners, &c. A banquet will take place in the evening, at which Mr Hume and other leading reformers will be present."

LEITH.—FOREIGN WHEAT.—Upwards of £11,000 of duty was cleared at the Custom house in two days upon wheat alone. This arose from an anticipated rise of duty, which has since taken place, namely, from 17s. to 18s. per quarter.—*Witness*.

FEATHERED SCOTTISH TWINS, NOT SIAMESE.—About ten days ago, John Campbell, of Rhonehouse, by Castle Douglas, discovered at Airlieand a sky-lark's nest, containing several young birds, obviously the product of a second hatching. On examining the callow brood, he was astonished to find two of them bound together by a ligature covered with feathers, centered in and extending from breast to breast. The said belt, pipe, or whatever it may be called, leaves scope for the action of the inner wings, so that the pair thus singularly united will be able to fly when fully grown, or mount aloft trilling their matin, if permitted to escape.—*Dumfries Courier*.

COLOUR A TEST OF GENTILITY.—We see by a memorial of several gentlemen to the directors of the British and North American Royal Mail Steam Navigation Company, published in the *Glasgow Argus*, that this company gives instructions to its officers to exclude persons of colour from the saloon and common table; and that on the last voyage of the company's ship *Acadia*, on her passage from Boston to Liverpool, a gentleman of colour from St Domingo was excluded from the use of the saloon and common table during the voyage, notwithstanding application to Captain Judkins for his admission. The memorialists remonstrate against such instructions, as equally at variance with the rights of individuals, and the advertisements of the company.

Mr Kennedy, presbyterian minister, Carbury, Longford, has been deprived of the *regium donum*, for his support of repeal doctrine!—*Saunders*.

## EVERYBODY'S COLUMN.

At a public sale, the other day, of the furniture of the late vicar of Enfield, who died worth £60,000, it was discovered that he had paved his stable-yard with tomb-stones!!!

The *Dublin Pilot* announces that there is a "prophetic parrot" in the possession of Mr Charles M'Alister, of Belfast, which, when asked, "Will we have the repeat?" answers, "You will, you will!"

Sir J. Guest has lately received an order from Russia for 50,000 tons of iron, for the purpose of being employed in the construction of railways.

It is said, that the visit of Louis Philippe, in September, has been arranged for the express purpose of His Majesty being sponsor to the royal prince.

T. D. Rice, the original Jim Crow, has amassed a large fortune, and is now erecting a splendid mansion on Long Island.

An act for amending the law respecting the solemnisation of marriages in the Isle of Man, and granting increased privileges to dissenters, is about to be passed into law.

Count Nesselrode, the celebrated Russian minister, has arrived in this country. This distinguished diplomatist paid a round of visits to the great officers of state.

**THE WAY TO MOUNT UP STAMP RETURNS.**—There are in the warehouse of a large manufacturing firm in Leicester, at the present time, only 24,000 unused stamps of the *Morning Herald*.—*Leicester Chronicle*.

Joseph Bonaparte, the elder brother of Napoleon, and the ex-king of Naples and Spain, died at Florence, where he had resided several years, on the 28th ult., in the 78th year of his age.

The safety beacon on Goodwin Sands was carried away on Monday last, by a vessel running foul of it.

The circulation of *Chambers' Journal* has increased from 60,000 to 90,000 since the alteration in its form.

In Norway there are 72,624 full owners of land, to 30,568 farmers and 42,974 labourers. In France there are 10,296,682 owners. In Ireland only 10,000.

It is proposed to establish a "College of Chemistry," with a view to its application to agriculture, arts, manufactures, and medicines.

Dr Arnott has invented an air-pump to supply a draught to furnaces, and supersede the necessity of chimneys in factories, steam-vessels, &c. The invention also forms a powerful ventilator.

The Collingwood, eighty guns, now lying at Spithead, will sail immediately and proceed direct to Tahiti.

Among the Chinese no relics are more valued than the boots which have been worn by an upright magistrate.—*Captain Piddington's Olio*.

Attics, stables, cow houses, and other places with slated roofs, generally intolerably hot in summer, may be rendered comfortable by giving the slates two or three coats of white paint.

The Queen of Wurtemberg seems remarkable for nothing but changing her dress three times a day, and never wearing the same gown twice. —*Mrs Shelley's Rambles in Germany and Italy*.

The principal portion of the cotton spinners of Chorley have commenced working at an advance of 5 per cent.

"How is your husband this afternoon, Mrs Squiggs?" "Why, the doctor says as how as if he lives till mornin', he shall have some hopes of him; but if he don't, he is feared he must give him up."

It is now proposed that the projected line of railway named the London and York, shall terminate at Leeds instead of York.

The total extra cost of corn and sugar to the people of this country, in consequence of monopoly, has been, according to the *Economist*, no less than £11,005,584 from the 1st of January to the 3rd of August.

The term "whig" is said to have been given to the liberal party in England by the royalists in Cromwell's time, from the initials of its motto, which was "We Hope In God."—*W.H.G.-American Paper*.

The editor of the *New York Aurora* thinks the mermaids must be good diving belles.

A PAIR OF PANTS.—"Oh! I pant for glory, I pant for renown!" said a ragged son of genius to his friend. "Well, if you have got a pair of pants, you'd better put them on," was the cool and relentless reply.—*New Orleans Picayune*.

It is said that Mr Monk Mason is about to spend £3,000 on the construction of a huge aerial machine, with which he expects to conquer all difficulties.

According to Mr Chadwick, the allowance of substantial food per week stands in the following proportion:—the transported thief, 330 ounces; the thief convicted, 239; suspected thief, 181; the soldier, 168; the able bodied pauper, 151; the independent labourer, 122.

IRISH REAPERS.—During the month of July, in the present year, 5,180 Irish reapers arrived in Liverpool by the City of Dublin company's boats. In the corresponding month of last year, there came 3,800.

A letter in the *Kelso Mail* states that Mr Melrose, of Hawick, Roxburghshire, has invented a pieceing machine, to be used in woolen manufactures, by means of which two children will be able to do the work which at present requires ten.

AMERICAN STEAMERS.—"Talk about your northern steamboats," said a Mississippi fireman the other day, "you hain't had a bilge burst for five years. It don't require no spunk to navigate them waters; any fool can do it; but it takes a man, stranger, to ride one of these here alligator-boats head on to a sawyer, high pressure and the valve soldered down, 600 passengers on board, and every soul endangered!"

**THE LATE PHILADELPHIA RIOTS.**—The following is an extract of a letter to Joseph Sturge, dated Philadelphia, 7 mo. 10, 1844:—

"The ashes of the Pennsylvanian hall, which in the year 1838 our mobocratic mayor and city council permitted to be thrown into the air, have come down in boils and blain upon our pro-slavery city, as was foretold by our excellent friend J. G. Whittier. He has been a true prophet in more than one instance. At the trial of the hall, the solicitor for the county declared if the latter part of Whittier's address at the dedication was not written after the hall was burnt, it certainly was prophecy! So I had to leave the court room and go home for a copy, which had never been out of my possession for a moment, from the time the poetical address was delivered; it appeared to astonish our opponents—they hardly knew what to make of it. We have had sad times in Philadelphia since thou wert here. Whilst the poor coloured people, or even the abolitionists, were the only sufferers by mob violence, nobody seemed to care much about it; a majority of such as spoke condemned the sufferers, said it was their own fault, &c.; then came the Roman catholics, and public voice still cried it was their own fault!—Why did they do this? what business had they to do that? &c. But this time the native Americans and the military are the sufferers—neither blacks nor catholics appear to have had anything to do with the last (the present) mob. At the riot in the 5th month, the Governor of Pennsylvania ordered the catholic church in Southwood to be supplied with a quantity of arms for the protection of the church—these were found to be out of order; so when the mob had subsided, the guns were sent to the state arsenal near Frankfort to be repaired. On the 4th inst. the native Americans had a procession, and display of banners, ships, flags, &c. On the 6th the arms were returned to the church; this excited the rabble in that neighbourhood; complaint was made to the sheriff, who repaired to the church, and took from thence about a dozen guns, some loaded, others unloaded; and told the mob on the outside these were all. He might have been deceived (no doubt he was informed so), but the mob knew better, forced their way into the building, and found about seventy-five more guns. This exasperated them very much—the rest that transpired has been published in the paper. At present all is quiet—the mob dispersed—the troops from the surrounding counties poured into the city; the United States troops are expected to arrive at noon to-day, but they will have nothing to do but to march 'back again.' The mob has dispersed for the present. One part of the town is, and has been, quiet through both wars; people walking the streets, and attending to business as usual, except now and then a company of infantry or a troop of horse passed silently along, or at most with only a drum beaten with one stick, to enable the soldiers to keep time. The soldiers looked more serious than I ever saw them since last war with Great Britain. It will be found after a while to be a different affair from destroying 'abolition halls and negroes.'

"We warned the people, that if they suffered injury done to us to pass unrebuked, that other societies would suffer; among others we spoke of the catholics by name—our words have been verified thus far. After St Augustine's church was destroyed, might be seen in gilt letters for several days over the circular window in the gable end, these words, 'The Lord seeth,' but it soon disappeared—whether by the hand of man, or the result of the fire upon the plastering, I know not; it appeared to be entirely out of reach, and beyond the space to which our longest ladders could reach—probably the plastering scaled off that contained this remarkable sentence."

**SREAM-BOAT ACCIDENT.—SEVENTY LIVES LOST.**—The following melancholy account is extracted from the *Rio de Janeiro papers*:

"At five o'clock in the afternoon of the 25th instant (May), about 200 persons had taken their passage in the *Especuladora* steam-boat, which plies between this city and Niteröy (a pleasant village on the opposite side of the harbour). The next day being Whit Sunday, and this the last boat for that evening, was crowded by respectable persons and parties intent on and anticipating a day's pleasure on the morrow, consequently were full of mirth and good humour.

"The clock had just struck five, and the captain given the order 'to cast off,' but the moment the paddle wheels began to move round, a terrible hissing noise was heard, the precursor of several explosions, which succeeded each other like flashes of lightning and claps of thunder—the boiler had burst. At first nothing could be seen for a dense cloud of steam that covered the vessel, from whence issued the most dreadful groans and piercing cries. On the steam clearing off, a most horror-striking sight presented itself to view, the middle part of the deck had been blown away, and a great number of human beings were discovered—men, women, children, old and young, blacks and whites, struggling in the hold, amidst the boiling water from the exploded boiler.

"Some died instantaneously, and these were, perhaps, the most fortunate; others, in their endeavour to extricate themselves from the horrid cauldron caught hold of the hot bars and fragments; but, obliged to let go their hold, fell backwards into it again. No words can describe accurately the horrifying scenes of desolation. Blacks became white, and white people red. Amidst the uproar one was calling out for a father, another for a brother, a third for a husband or wife, and a fourth for a son or daughter—the sea was covered with the dead and dying, or those endeavouring to escape from the devouring elements—a few were so fortunate as to reach the shore, and many were picked up by the boats, which promptly rendered every assistance; but, notwithstanding all exertions to save them, several were drowned. Ah! who can describe the agonies or imagine the pangs of so many unfortunate fellow-creatures, boiled, as it were, alive; with pieces of flesh hanging from their bodies, literally scalded from head to foot; surviving a few hours in this state, and suffering the most excruciating torments.

"Soon after the explosion the chimney and main-mast fell on the awning, and buried beneath it a number of the passengers, who were thus placed in the greatest jeopardy as the boiling liquid was fast approaching them; but they were rescued by great exertions made—knives, razors, swords, were instantly used to extricate them. No praise can be considered too great for the assistance so promptly rendered. The ministers of justice and of the war department, with the head of the police, and a great many medical men, immediately repaired to the hospital, where forty-one sufferers had been taken, and

were indefatigable in rendering them assistance and alleviation."

The number of victims could not be ascertained, but from more recent information the deaths exceeded seventy, and several of the 30 wounded were still in a very dangerous state. The cause of the explosion had not been exactly ascertained. From the report, however, of the engineers who examined the machinery after the accident, it clearly appeared that great neglect must have occurred with respect to the safety valve, the wire of which was so corroded that the pressure must have been 100 lbs. to the square inch when the explosion took place—it ought not to have exceeded 5 lbs.

**"WAY TO REPEAL THE CHANDOS CLAUSE."**—We have received a tract, of which the above is part of the title, propounding the following plan by which "working men" may "check-mate the aristocracy":—

"Working Men—Make free voters of yourselves. If one man can do it unaided, let him do it. If half-a-dozen can enfranchise one man, now unenfranchised, let them do it. A freehold of 40s. a year gives a man a county vote. 40s. is the interest, at 4 per cent, of £50. You may build or buy six cottages for £250, which will bring you in a clear rental of £20 a year, or 8 per cent return for your money.

"To overbalance the aristocracy 100,000 free votes are wanted. 100,000 freeholds would cost £5,000,000. Where are the working men to get such a sum? They have it already. It is but trifling when divided by millions of men. Many a single aristocrat possesses as much. There are now in the savings' banks of England £21,000,000, half of which is the property of the working classes

"Working men—consider: is it better to have your little savings lying at three per cent at the service of the government of monopoly; or to have them invested in freeholds which will bring in six or eight per cent, and at the same time will endow you with the privileges of free men, and with the power to put down the drones who fatten upon the robbery of the people?"

## Literature.

**The Home : or, Family Cares, and Family Joys.** By FREDERIKA BREMER. Translated by M. HOWITT. 2 vols. Longman and Co. 1843.

THE warm competition now going on in all departments of literature renders it next to impossible that any foreign work, likely to be at all popular, can remain overlooked. The advantage (to the publisher) of issuing such works without any forbidding by the law of copy-right, consequently at an inconsiderable price, is warranty enough—even were there no other—that few authors or authoresses of any attraction will long "blush unseen" in a foreign concealment. Miss Bremer must well understand Lord Byron's sentiment—"I awoke one morning and found myself famous." It was but the other day she was introduced, and her name is already up at a high premium. The interval since her first appearance has been like those few genial days of summer which sometimes succeed a prolonged season of gloom and showers; it has brought out the fruits of Miss Bremer's genius almost miraculously. Whatever may be the case with epics, tragedies, metaphysics, and history, which grow as slowly as cedars of Lebanon, and last as long—now and then; the same law does not regulate lyrics, nor comedy, nor satire, nor descriptive writing in general. It is with these as with portraits—we are delighted with a likeness, though it be only in a sketch; but, in the absence of resemblance, not the most elaborate painting will avail anything. Yet we confess the number of Miss Bremer's publications has led us to speculate upon the possibilities of super-fecundity, and over-production; or, at least, to wonder whether, according to the present ratio of progress, her literary progeny may not, by-and-by, outnumber those of (we beg pardon for the juxtaposition) Richard Baxter and Sir Walter Scott.

The work which we are at this moment attempting to review—certainly the most to our taste of those productions of Miss Bremer which we have yet seen—is translated by Mary Howitt, a lady, in some respects, peculiarly qualified to do justice to such an author. The productions of the Howitts themselves are always agreeable to us; not simply for the talent they display, but for the pure, true, honest domestic feeling, which shows that the writers have hearts, and that their hearts are in the right place. Mary Howitt has many things in common with Frederika Bremer. We like a woman's book for the same reason that we like woman herself; and we wish that we could read in their original language all the worthy books which worthy women have written; but, seeing that cannot be, may we ever have our foreign female productions translated by a woman, and, albeit very imperfect in her English, by such a woman as Mary Howitt.

These volumes purport to be the history of a Swedish family. There is something pleasant in this; for, since America came into fashion, Sweden has lapsed again into an undiscovered country. In a succession of tableaux, some of them painted with great effect, we are led to watch the progress of a household—beginning *ab origine*—from the marriage of the parents, and descending to the settlement of their children into life. We cannot say that Miss Bremer's productions are, as tales, very alluring. The first volumes which come to hand from the nearest circulating library will, probably, contain a plot the same in kind, and quite as good

in quality. And, had Miss Bremer nothing better than the flimsy, romantic, and absurd plots which will, perhaps, to some superficial readers, constitute her chief attraction, we could have been contented had we never heard of her. We allow that there is something in the first conception of the tale, constituting the ground-work of these volumes, not very favourable to compactness; and that there are not many writers who would not find it possible to give the histories of a father and six children, following all into the details of their expanding characters, and still preserve the unity of their design. But we have still graver objections to urge. Some of the incidents are neither very correct in taste, nor moral in tendency; and there prevails throughout, like continental works in general, a constant familiarity with religion in name, conjoined with an entire abnegation of the influence of all religion in fact. The views afforded, too, of the state of society in Sweden (if Miss Bremer may be trusted as having sketched it truly), is too much like that of the continent in general not to call for our animadversion. These are serious faults; they are, however, redeemed by great excellencies. All whom stern fate has decreed to smoky localities know the exhilarating effect of those zephyrs which now and then push away the stagnant and hydro-carbonised atmosphere, and are redolent of health and spring. Just this effect has Miss Bremer's freshness upon the reader. She draws, with admirable simplicity and talent, her scenes of domestic life. We see them; we feel them; and they have usually a moral which, though not violently obtruded, is calculated to amend as well as to amuse.

Some of the authoress's excellencies will be perceived in the following chapter, entitled

"THE IMPROVISED DINNER."

"It is true that an improvised dinner might do without a roast: this we grant as a general law; but, in the case of this particular dinner, we deny it altogether, in proof of which we might easily give the arrangement of the whole dinner, did we not flatter ourselves that we are believed on our bare word. Beyond this, the judge was a declared lover of a roast, and of all kinds of animal food, which circumstance increased still more Elise's difficulty; and, as if to make the difficulty still greater, Elise, on this very day, was remarkably in want of assistants, for her husband had sent out, on his own business, those servants who, on extraordinary occasions, Elise had found very good help. The cook, too, was confused to-day in a remarkable manner; the children were in a fermentation; Eva and Leonore quarreled; Petrea tore a hole in her new frock; Henrik broke a water-bottle and six glasses; the baby cried and screamed for nothing; the clock was on the stroke of twelve; and no roast would come."

"Dinner-time came, and with it the guests and the judge (the husband), who had spent the whole morning in the business of his own office, out of the house."

"Oh, that the chickens may be nicely done!" was the incessant master-thought of Elise's soul; and it prevailed over the Pope, the church of St Peter's, Thorwaldsen and Pasta, and over every subject of which they talked.

"The hour of dinner was come, and yet the dinner kept the company waiting. The judge, who expected from everybody else the punctuality which he himself practised, began to suffer from what Elise called his 'dinner fever,' and threw uneasy glances, first at the dining-room door, and then at his wife, whose situation, it must be confessed, was not a very enviable one. She endeavoured to look quite calm, but often whispered something to the little Louise, which sent her very importantly in and out of the room. Elise's entertainment, both that part which was audible, and that which was inaudible, was, probably, at the moment carried on something after the following fashion:

"'It must be inexplicably pleasant to know,' ('Ah, how unbearably long it is!') 'it must be very interesting. ('I wish Ernst would fire again on his old flame, and forget dinner.') 'Yes, indeed, that was very remarkable.' ('Now are those chickens not roasted?') 'Poor Spain!' ('Now, thank goodness, dinner is ready at last, if the chickens are only well done!')

"And now to dinner! A word which brightens all countenances, and enlivens all tempers. Elise began to esteem the Colonel's widow very highly, because she kept up such a lively conversation, and she hoped this would divert attention from any of the dishes which were not particularly successful. The judge was a polite and agreeable host, and he was particularly fond of dinner-time, when he would have made all men partakers of his good appetite, good humour, and even of his good eating. N.B. If this was really good; but, if the contrary happened to be the case, his temper could not well sustain it.

"During the dinner, Elise saw now and then little clouds come over her husband's brow, but he himself appeared anxious to disperse them, and all went on tolerably till the chickens came. As the judge, who adhered to all old customs, was cutting them up, he evidently found them tough, whereupon a glance was sent across the table to his wife, which went to her heart like the stab of a knife; but no sooner was the first pang over, than this reproachful glance aroused a degree of indignation in her which determined her to steel herself against misfortune which in no case was her fault; she, therefore, grew quite lively and talkative, and never once turned her eyes to her husband, who, angry and silent, sat there with a very hot brow, and the knife sticking still in the fowls."

"At length Emilie rose to take her leave. \* \* \* Elise retired to her own chamber.

"Poor Elise! she dared not at this moment descend into her own heart; she felt a necessity to abstain from thought—a necessity entirely to forget herself and the troubling impressions with which to-day had overwhelmed her soul. A full hour was before her—an hour of undisturbed repose, and she hastened to her manuscript, in

order to busy herself with those rich moments of life which her pen could call up at pleasure, and to forget the poor and weary present; in one word, to lose the lesser in the higher reality. The sense of suffering, of which the little annoyances of life gave her experience, made her alive to the sweet impressions of that beauty and that harmonious state of existence which was so dear to her soul.

"She wrote, and wrote, and wrote; her heart was warm, her eyes filled with tears, the words glowed upon the page, life became bright, the moments flew. An hour and a half passed. Her husband's tea time came; he had such delight, in coming home at this hour, to find his wife and his children all assembled round the tea-table in the family room. It very rarely happened that Elise had not all in readiness for him; but now the striking of seven o'clock roused her from her writing; she laid down her pen, and was in the act of rising, when her husband entered."

A matrimonial quarrel is the consequence.

"Elise wept long and violently; her whole soul was in excitement.

"In moments of violent struggle, bad and good spirits are at hand; they surrounded Elise, and spoke to her thus—

"Bad spirits. 'Think on that which thou hast given up! Think on thy own merits! Recollect the many little acts of injustice which thou hast had to bear, the bitter moments which the severity of thy husband has occasioned thee! Why shouldst thou humbly crawl in the dust? Raise thyself, depressed one! Raise thyself, offended wife! Think of thy own worth, of thy own rights. Do not allow thyself to be subjected; show some character. Requite that which thou hast endured. Thou canst also annoy; thou also canst punish! Take refuge in thy nerves, in unkindness; make use of thy power, and enjoy the pleasure of revenge.'

"Good spirits. 'Think on thy wants, on thy faults! Recollect all the patience, all the kindness, all the tenderness, which has been shown thee! Think on the many beautiful moments! Think on thy husband's worth—on his noble qualities!'

"It was the bathing day of the children. \* \* \* Elise, however, could not fully enjoy it. She thought of what had just occurred; longings for reconciliation with her husband occupied her mind; yet she could not help smiling at Gabrielle, who had sunk down into the bath alone, exclaiming, 'I am drowning!' In order to re-assure her, her mother stretched out her white hands to her, and under their protection she laughed and splashed about like a little fish in water.

"A shower of flowers streamed suddenly over both mother and child, and Gabrielle screamed aloud for joy, and stretched forth her little arms to catch gilly-flowers, roses, and carnations, which fell upon and around her. Elise turned herself round in surprise, and her surprise changed itself into the most delightful sensation of joy, as the lips of her husband were pressed to her forehead."

*Memoirs of the Seventy-five Divines*, whose Discourses form the Morning Exercises at Cripplegate, St Giles in the Fields, and in Southwark. With an Outline of a Sermon from each author. By SAMUEL DUNN. Snow: Paternoster row. 1844. pp. 231.

The morning exercises had their origin in the times of civil war. It was the custom of those days, still preserved in many parts, that hearers of the nonconformist congregations sent up to the minister requests for the prayers of the people on occasions of emergency, either to themselves or others. When the Earl of Essex marched against the king, these requests became so exceedingly numerous as to lead to a separate service for the purpose of presenting these prayers, as well as of delivering some suitable exhortation to the people. Then took place the service termed "the morning exercise," with varying localities, and administered by different preachers, but combining all the talent and piety of the nonconformists in their best days. Those who have perused "The Morning Exercises" in course of publication by Mr Tegg, will find the present volume to be a very acceptable accompaniment. The memoirs are not, indeed, very elaborate, nor very well digested; but they supply the leading facts relative to the authors of the exercises. Each narrative is accompanied by an outline of one of the discourses delivered by the subject of the biography; by means of which we form about as correct a notion of the sermon as we should of a man's appearance by being furnished with the exact number of inches of his length and breadth. Yet, though it might have been improved, we are indebted to the work for much information. To those not informed respecting the personages, we recommend the volume.

*The Catholic Doctrine of Redemption vindicated; or, Modern Views of the Atonement, particularly those of Dr Wardlaw, examined and refuted.* By ANDREW MARSHALL, D.D., LL.D. Robertson, Glasgow. Hamilton and Co., London. 1844.

The introduction to this volume thus avows its design:

"It is my purpose, in the following pages, to review some portions of Dr Wardlaw's late work on 'the nature and extent of Christ's atonement'; and I trust that, in doing so, I shall not be found wanting in that courtesy which in a former instance has called forth his acknowledgments. Indeed, I think it is hardly possible that I can be guilty of any rudeness, in thought or in expression, towards a man who stands, and has always stood, so high in my estimation. At the same time, I would hope, that I shall neither, on the one hand, be so overawed by the greatness of his talents or of his fame, or of both together, as to shrink from asserting the truth, which I conceive him to misapprehend."—pp. 1, 2.

The contents of the volume are—I. Inquiry into the views of Dr Wardlaw and his coadjutors.—II. In what sense the atonement satisfies public justice.—III. The new theology compared with the middle system.—IV. Conclusion, with notes and an appendix.

The subject is one of grave and great importance, and truth cannot fail of being promoted by its discussion. Dr Marshall enters upon it with an able earnestness which betokens his deep feeling that vital interests are at issue. In size the book is the very counterpart of Dr Wardlaw's.

*Connexion between Church and State*; a Lecture delivered by the Rev. John Burnet, of Camberwell, at the Long rooms, Southampton, February 21, 1844. Southampton: Fletcher, Forbes, and Fletcher. 1844. We cannot better characterise this pamphlet than by saying that it is full of all the point, argument, and good-natured artillery of Mr Burnet's best speeches.

*Lay Lectures on Christian Faith and Practice.* By JOHN BULLAR. Southampton: Fletcher, Forbes, and Fletcher. London: Longman and Co. 1844. pp. 517.

THESE are specimens of the lectures delivered during a long course of lay assistant agency, at the chapel belonging to Mr Adkins, of Southampton, and published at the request of the minister and deacons of the church. The circumstances under which they have reached the press are honourable alike to the parties requesting, and to the gentleman to whom the solicitation was preferred. They afford an admirable specimen of a rich and somewhat original mind—reminding us a little of the style of John Foster, for which peculiar relations enable us to account—but entirely removed from all charge of copied mannerism or affected originality. Simple, naive, illustrative, practical, forcible, they are delightful specimens of the working out of a mind untrammelled by theological formalism, and intent upon exhibiting and enforcing truth. The rising ministry may study these pages with great profit. If such be lay preaching, "would God that all my Lord's servants were prophets, and that the Lord would put his spirit within them!"

*Saul, King of Israel*; a Sacred Drama, in Five Acts, by STUART ALEXANDER. Hamilton, Adams, and Co., London; Oliver and Boyd, Edinburgh; David Robertson, Glasgow. pp. 174.

"A Sacred Drama" is a thing of which we form a different idea from those who usher it into the world. It always conveys to our minds the notion of commonness thrown over a sacred narrative: not that "this is the necessary consequence of a transition from the ideal to the real, from the etherealities of the mind to the palpabilities of sense;" but because a drama, like a paraphrase, is a beating out and enfeebling of that energetic and impressive brevity by which Scripture history is peculiarly characterised. We know that Hannah More and others have adopted this form of presenting portions of the book of God to the public, under the persuasion that it is adapted to win attention to the book itself. We, on the contrary, have ever thought it much more likely to lead from the love of the Bible to the love of the drama. At the same time we are bound to express our conviction, that Mr Alexander has been actuated by the purest and most laudable motives in writing this work; and though we are not charmed with sacred dramas, we think this possessed of many excellencies, and calculated to furnish interest and pleasure to those who are fond of them. We should be glad to meet him in another character, in which, if we mistake not, he is capable of appearing.

*Lantern to the Jews; or, Table of Analogies, &c.* By DANIEL STRICKLAND TATHAM, Wesleyan Minister. Simpkin, Marshall, and Co., and Pigott, London; and W. Bunn, Nottingham. pp. 16.

THESE sixteen pages are crammed with a complex and dry comparison between the doctrines of the Jewish liturgy and those of the Old and New Testaments, in reference to the two covenants and a future state. The writer's object is to clearly open the new covenant to the apprehension, faith, and conscience of the Jew. With what success his effort will meet, we are not prophets enough to tell. His motive is pious, and his patience of labour admirable. He might have a strain of German blood in him, from his diligence of collation; but we think the clear-headed founder of methodism would have given it a more useful direction. Christians do not need the work, and Jews will not read it, inasmuch as it lacks an inviting form.

*Evangelical Dissenters God's Witnesses.* By the Rev. W. LEASK. Jackson and Walford, 1844. pp. 16.

THOSE who are acquainted with Dr Watts's "humble attempt," as he very modestly termed it, must be well aware with what force a dissenter can wield an argument drawn from the advantages which dissenters, *per se*, possess for the discovery and perpetuation of truth. Were men only as good as their professed principles, we should need no more. The author of this pamphlet avails himself of this argument; employing it with much earnestness and force. We wish it could reach every supine nonconformist in the three kingdoms. The tract is admirably calculated as a present from one Christian friend to another. It is energetic without being vulgar or violent, and it publishes the truth in an intelligible and arousing, though in a beseeching, form. It will teach some who are not yet aware of it, how deep the responsibility is of avowing one's self a dissenter.

*A Biblical Dictionary; being a Comprehensive Digest of the History and Antiquity of the Jews and Neighbouring Nations; the Natural History, Geography, and Literature of the Sacred Writings; with Pronouncing and Chronological Appendices.* By the Rev. J. A. BASTOW. London: Strange, Bradford, York: Walker and Scarlett. Parts I, II, III.

THE theological opinions of this work are trinitarian, Arminian, and pedobaptist. As a dictionary to the Bible it has many points of peculiar value, and shows great industry and labour. The manner in which difficulties are illustrated, are often very ingenious; whilst each subject is brought down to the latest times and discoveries. Altogether, it is a work which none can read without being made wiser, and which is peculiarly calculated for young preachers of the methodist persuasion. It merits their perusal and possession. We speak of course of the first three numbers only, probably all which are yet published.

*The Juvenile Missionary Magazine.* July and August, 1844. Printed for the Directors of the London Missionary Society; and sold by J. SNOW, Paternoster row. pp. 16.

THIS little periodical has our warm wishes for its success. It has begun well—though it has not issued perfect, like Minerva from the head of Jupiter. It has something yet to gain in simplicity, and freedom from colloquial vulgarities. But it deserves a large circulation, and will prove, we trust, of eminent service to one of the noblest of causes.

*The Church Advancing; a Popular Address to Roman Catholics on the Present Encouraging Aspect of Affairs—designed to Stimulate the Faithful to Retire the Error and Efface the Crime of the Reformation.* Edited by I. WAKEHAM. Aylott and Jones, Paternoster row. pp. 24.

A CLEVER and spirited pamphlet; with some very "palpable hits" right and left. Without expressing indiscriminate approval of all his play, we think the author has shown himself very skilful in home thrusts, and proved that he could be very formidable with the button off. Some of his lunges are capital.

*Secret Blessings for Little Children.* By MRS GILBERT. Jackson and Walford. pp. 14.

WHO that has been a child since "Original Poems," and "Hymns for Infant Minds," were written, does not remember them with pleasure and profit? We will not say that any of these on the Beatitudes are equal to the best in that volume; but many Christian parents will receive them very thankfully. The little book is prettily printed. But the press surely wants correction in the third hymn, the first line of which runs thus—"Blessed are whom? The rich? The gay?" For "whom" here read "who."

*The Desk and the Counter;* Young Men engaged in Trade urged to Self-exertion for Advancement in True Dignity and Excellence. By A FELLOW-LABOURER. With an Introductory Notice by W. ANDERSON, Esq. Edinburgh: C. Ziegler and W. P. Kennedy. London: Hamilton and Co. 1844. pp. 36.

SENSIBLE, judicious, and practical; well worthy of being perused by all young men.

#### LIST OF PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

1. *Spectacle Secrets.*
2. *Chymical Delictus.*
3. *Lacon of Liberty.*
4. *Home Missionary Magazine.* August.
5. *A Letter to the People of the United Kingdom, on National Reformation in Church and State.* By a CHRISTIAN REFORMER.
6. *The Salvation of Israel.* A Sermon. By GEORGE SMITH.
7. *The North British Review.* No. 2. August.

CARLISLE.—Mr Edward Trickett, of the Baptist college, Bristol, has received and accepted a cordial invitation to the pastorate of the church meeting in the Athenaeum, Carlisle.

DR THOMAS ARCHER.—At the 97th anniversary of the Princeton college, the degree of D.D. was conferred on Mr Thomas Archer, of the United Secession church, London.

DR MEDHURST.—Mr Walter Medhurst, the missionary author of "China: its state and prospects," has received a diploma, from the New York University, conferring on him the title of Doctor of Divinity.

#### MARRIAGES.

July 26, at the Baptist meeting-house, Guisborough, Northamptonshire, by Mr N. M. Hawker, Mr JOHN HARRIS, carpenter and joiner, to M. A. HOLLIS, both of the former place.

Aug. 8, at the above place, by the same minister, Mr KEW, plumber and glazier, of Northampton, to Miss MARY CLEAVER, second daughter of Mr R. Cleaver, cattle dealer, of Guisborough.

Aug. 3, at Castle square chapel, Wisbech, by Mr W. Holmes, JOHN PADGETT, to ELIZABETH SMITH, both of Wisbech.

Aug. 4, at Union Chapel, Lewisham, by Mr T. Timpson, Mr JOHN MORGAN, to Miss ELIZABETH PARSONS.

Aug. 5, at the English Independent chapel, Merthyr Tydfil, by Mr Edward Griffith, Mr RICHARD POWIS, to Miss ELIZABETH WITNEY, both of Merthyr.

Aug. 8, at the Independent chapel, Plaistow, by Mr Thomas Bilney, THOMAS SADLER, son of Charles RHED, Esq., of Bristol, to ELLEN, third daughter of the late Benjamin HANSON, Esq., of Hackney.

Aug. 9, at the Independent chapel, Blandford, by Mr R. Keynes, Mr JOHN KEYNES, of Blandford, to Sarah Carter, eldest daughter of Mrs CONYERS, of the same place.

Aug. 11, at the Independent chapel, Dartford, Kent, by Mr J. S. CUNNINGHAM, Mr JOHN RICHARDSON, of Greenwich, to Miss E. MOSS, of Dartford.

Aug. 12, at the Independent chapel, Dartford, Kent, by Mr J. S. CUNNINGHAM, Mr JOHN HIGGS, to Miss SARAH BARNET, both of Bexley Heath, Kent.

Lord CLAUDE HAMILTON, M.P., brother to the Marquis of Abercorn, to Miss PROBY, second daughter of the Hon. Graville Leveson Proby, and niece of the Earl of Carysfort. The ceremony took place in the chapel of Lambeth Palace, the Archibishop of Canterbury officiating.

Aug. 13, at Caystreet chapel, Torquay, Mr H. KELLIGREW, of Pockington, to Miss M. A. CAWDLE.

#### DEATHS.

April 14, at Pulo Penang, Mr T. BRIGHTON, 25 years a missionary to the heathen.

Aug. 1, at the house of Mr G. Nettleship, of Yelvertoft, in the county of Northampton, Mr PLIMSOUL, of Sheffield, aged 59 years. He was a holy man of God, and his end was peace.

Aug. 3, of scarlet fever, after a few days' illness, THOMAS ARTHUR, the second son of Mr John STEVENSON, M.A., minister of Borough road chapel, Southwark; aged ten years and four months. From the commencement of his short but severe illness, he seemed to be impressed with the belief that he should not recover; and, though suffering great pain, he awaited his end with a calm and patient cheerfulness, in which the sustaining power of divine grace was very affectingly displayed.

Aug. 5, at Pinkieburn, Mr JOHN WATSON, of Musselburgh. Few men have lived more respected, or died more regretted. For the long period of nearly forty years he was pastor of the congregational church in Musselburgh, and for thirty-two years he has sustained the additional onerous office of secretary for the Congregational Union of Scotland.

Aug. 7, at his residence, Muswell hill, Mr EDWARD MOTTRAM, many years a member of the common council for the ward of Aldersgate.

Aug. 11, at Windsor, of consumption, aged 25, Mr JOHN EVANS, jun., of Southampton street, Covent garden.

On the 28th ult., at Florence, after a long illness, JOSEPH BONAPARTE, at one time king of Naples, and afterwards of Spain. His brothers, Louis and Jerome, were with him in his last moments. Louis is now the head of the family, but his health is also very bad, and his successor is Prince Louis Napoleon, the prisoner at Ham.

#### Advertisements.

#### Trade and Commerce.

##### LONDON GAZETTE.

Friday, August 9.

The following buildings are certified as places duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to the act of 6 and 7 William IV., cap. 85.—

New Baptist chapel, Chard, Somersetshire.

Grove lane chapel, Cheadle Moseley, Cheshire.

##### BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

KENNEDY, FRANCIS, now or late of New Bond street, and York place, Vauxhall road, stationer.

##### BANKRUPT.

DIXON, HENRY JECKE, and DIXON, JOHN, Kidderminster, and Aldermanbury, City, carpet manufacturers, August 22, October 1: solicitor, Mr William Brinton, Kidderminster.

ELSE, JOSEPH, and DIXON, WILLIAM, Kingston-upon-Hull, millers, August 23, October 4: solicitors, Messrs Tilson and Co., Coleman street, London; Messrs Wells, Hull; and Messrs Horsfall and Harrison, Leeds.

##### BANKRUPT.

INNES, JAMES, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, ironmonger, August 27, October 8: solicitor, Mr Styles, Cheltenham.

YEARDELEY, JOHN, YEARDELEY, WILLIAM, and YEARDELEY, ELIZABETH, Ecclesfield, Yorkshire, flax spinners, August 22, October 3: solicitors, Messrs Williamson and Co., Gray's inn, London; Messrs Leeman and Clark, York; and Mr Bond, Leeds.

##### SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

JOHNSTON, ROBERT, Glasgow, rag merchant, Aug. 12, Sept. 2.

HAY, SAMUEL, late of Bonnyton-moor, but now of Glasgow, farmer, August 13, Sept. 3.

##### DIVIDENDS.

W. Miers, Leeds, oil colour merchant; first div. of 1s. 6d. in the pound, any Tuesday—R. W. Appleton, Liverpool, merchant; div. of 3s. 6d. in the pound, August 10, or any Saturday after October 5—T. White, Liverpool, merchant; fifth div. of 3d. in the pound, August 10, or any Saturday after October 5—D. Parker, Salford, Lancashire, hop merchant; first and final div. of 6d. in the pound, August 13—H. Griffiths, Chelford, Cheshire, innkeeper; first div. of 8s. 6d. in the pound, August 13—H. S. Hewitt, Manchester, licensed victualler; first div. of 4s. 10d. in the pound, August 13—C. S. and W. Heywood, Manchester, warehousemen; final div. of 1d. in the pound, August 14, and any Wednesday after October 5—W. Warren, Pownall Fee, Cheshire, blacksmith; first and final div. of 10s. 4d. in the pound, August 14, and any Wednesday after October 5—L. and J. Rostrom, Edensfield, Lancashire, late of New York, manufacturers; third div. of 1d. in the pound, August 14, and any Wednesday after October 5—W. and J. Sharrocks, Manchester, machine makers; final div. of 1d. in the pound, August 13, October 8, or any subsequent Tuesday—P. J. Papillon, Leeds, wine merchant; second and final div. of 5d. in the pound, any Tuesday after August 13.

Tuesday, August 13.

The following buildings are certified as places duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to the act of 6 and 7 William IV., cap. 85.—

The baptist chapel, Bradpole, Dorsetshire.

The Refuge baptist chapel, Stowford Meadow.

##### BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

RILEY, EDWARD, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire, grocer.

##### BANKRUPT.

BANISTER, CHARLES JAMES, Derby, linen draper, Aug. 20, and Sept. 28: solicitor, Mr Bott, Birmingham.

O'BRIEEN, BERNARD, Bath, wine merchant, August 25, September 27: solicitors, Mr Short, Bristol; Messrs Harrison, Walbrook, London.

MICHAEL JACOB, North Shields, Northumberland, general dealer, Aug. 23, Oct. 2: solicitors, Mr Spry, Broad street buildings, London; Mr J. Cooper, Somerton; and Messrs Tinsley, North Shields.

RODGERS, HENRY ABDIAL, Sheffield, newsman, Aug. 23, Oct. 4: solicitors, Mr Beeve, Furnival's inn, London, and Mr Scholfield, Leeds.

ROTHERY, JOSEPH, Golcar, Yorkshire, clothier, Aug. 23, Sept. 27: solicitors, Mr Cumming, Cheapside, London; Messrs Brook and Freeman, Huddersfield; and Mr Sykes, Leeds.

SLATER, THOMAS, now or late of Burnley, Lancashire, pawnbroker, Aug. 23, Sept. 13: solicitors, Messrs Cragg and Jeyses, 4, Harpur street, Red Lion square, London; and Messrs Alcock and Dixon, Burnley.

##### SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

BROWNING, JAMES, Kilmarnock, auctioneer, August 19, September 9.

M'LEOD, GEORGE, and ANDERSON, JOHN, Glasgow, warehousemen, August 17, Sept. 7.

JOHNSTONE, WILLIAM COLIN, Dunkeld, surgeon, August 19, September 7.

##### DIVIDENDS.

R. H. WALSH, 61, Aldermanbury, City, warehouseman; first and final div. of 1s. in the pound, payable any day after Aug. 14—R. CHAMPION, Friday street, Cheapside, City, furrier; second div. of 1s. 8d. in the pound, payable on Wednesday next—R. ALLISON, Whitehaven, Cumberland, ironmonger; first div. of 3s. 4d. in the pound, payable until Aug. 17, or any Wednesday after Oct. 5—B. GARDNER, Leigh, Worcestershire, maltster; third div. of 7d. in the pound, payable any Thursday—S. DANKE, WEDNESBURY, nail manufacturer; second div. of 2s. in the pound, payable on Thursday next, and the following Thursday, or any Thursday after Oct. 4, next—T. COOKE, LEICESTER, glove manufacturer; second div. of 4d. in the pound, payable on Thursday next, or any Thursday after Oct. 4, next—T. C. HODGSON, LEOMINSTER, LINENDRAPER; first div. of 4s. in the pound, payable any day before Aug. 19, or any Thursday after Oct. 4—C. HARRINGTON, KIDDERMINSTER, PLUMBER; first div. of 1s. 3d. in the pound, payable on Thursday next, or any Thursday after Oct. 4—W. BURTON, 28, KING STREET, SOHO, UPHOLSTERER; first div. of 9s. in the pound, payable any Wednesday—E. BRITTON, BATH, VICTUALER; first div. of 3d. in the pound, payable Aug. 14, and any Wednesday after Oct. 5—G. PARK, CHARLES STREET, COMMERCIAL ROAD, STEPNEY; first div. of 2s. in the pound, payable any Wednesday—C. STABLES, SOUTHAMPTON, MILLINER; first div. of 1s. 2d. in the pound, payable any Wednesday—A. B. HICKMAN, ABERGAVENNY, VICTUALER, final div. of 2d. in the pound, with the first div. of 2s. 6d. in the pound, payable Aug. 14, and any Wednesday after Oct. 5—H. DAVIS, BRISTOL, SCRIVENER; fourth div. of 1s. 6d. in the pound, payable Aug. 14, and any Wednesday after Oct. 5—R. WATSON, YORK, SILK MERCER, final div. of 3d. in the pound, payable Aug. 14, and any day after.

#### BRITISH FUNDS.

The demand for stock for real investment is steady, but no operations of importance have taken place during the week.

Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.	Tues.
3 per cent. Consols	99 <i>1</i>				
Ditto for Account..	99 <i>1</i>				
3 per cent Reduced	100	100	99 <i>1</i>	99 <i>1</i>	99 <i>1</i>
3 <i>4</i> per cts. Reduced	102 <i>1</i>	102 <i>1</i>	103 <i>1</i>	102 <i>1</i>	103 <i>1</i>
New 3 <i>4</i> percent...	101 <i>1</i>	101 <i>1</i>	101 <i>1</i>	101 <i>1</i>	102 <i>1</i>
Long Annuities...	12 <i>1</i>				
Bank Stock...	200	200 <i>1</i>	200 <i>1</i>	200	200
India Stock...	75pm	77pm	77pm	74pm	79pm
Exchequer Bills...	94pm	—	95pm	94pm	96pm
India Bonds .....	—	—	—	—	—

#### FOREIGN FUNDS.

Austrian .....	—	Mexican .....	35 <i>1</i>
Belgian .....	103	Peruvian .....	24 <i>1</i>
Brazilian .....	84	Portuguese 5 per cents .....	80 <i>1</i>
Buenos Ayres .....	35	Ditto 3 per cents .....	43 <i>1</i>
Columbian .....	13 <i>1</i>	Russian .....	22 <i>1</i>
Danish .....	88 <i>1</i>	Spanish Active .....	22 <i>1</i>
Dutch 2 <i>4</i> per cents .....	61 <i>1</i>	Ditto Passive .....	5 <i>1</i>
Ditto 5 per cents .....	101 <i>1</i>	Ditto Deferred .....	12 <i>1</i>

#### RAILWAY SHARES.

BIRMINGHAM and DERBY	80*1*	LONDON & BIRM. & Shares	—


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## BRITISH ANTI-STATE-CHURCH ASSOCIATION.

THE Executive Committee, having received many letters requesting information as to the best method of promoting the objects of the Association in the Metropolitan Districts and in the Provinces, and having ascertained that Local Associations cannot legally hold communication with the British Anti-state-church Association, or even contribute to its funds, submit the following suggestions to their friends, as adapted to secure the greatest amount of union and practical advantage, without involving the legal liabilities which would otherwise be incurred.

1. In order to bring the claims of the Association fairly before the public, a Registrar to be appointed in each town, village, or other locality; and, where the extent of the population to be appealed to shall require it, a town or locality to be divided into well-defined districts, and a Registrar to be appointed to each of such districts.

2. These Registrars, in every instance, to be enrolled members, and duly appointed by the Executive Committee at such officers of the Association.

3. Except when themselves members of the Council, to be recommended in writing to the Executive Committee by a member of the Council; or, in the absence of any such person, by not less than five enrolled members of the Association.

4. It is suggested that no individual should be recommended as eligible to become a Registrar who is not prepared to exert himself personally in promoting the objects of the Association.

5. Each Registrar, on his appointment, to be furnished with a Registrar's book, in which he will keep a register of the names of all persons who have become members of the Association, with an account of their pecuniary subscriptions; and the Executive Committee, on receiving from individual Registrars a list of the names of members on their books, with evidence of their pecuniary qualifications, will supply them with an equal number of member's cards, containing respectively the names of the members so reported.

6. The pecuniary subscriptions obtained by the Registrars to be, at stated periods arranged by the Executive Committee, transmitted to the Treasurer of the Association.

7. The Registrars of each locality to advise from time to time with the Executive Committee as to making arrangements for the delivery of lectures and the holding of public meetings, and for the promotion of the objects of the Association by other means; and the Executive Committee to hold themselves prepared to afford assistance to the utmost extent of their means, opportunities, and ability, in giving efficiency to all such movements as may be adopted with their concurrence.

F. A. COX,  
E. MIAU,  
J. M. HARE,  
Aldine Chambers,  
Aug. 7, 1844.  
Secretaries.

## DISSENTERS' CHAPELS ACT.

A JOINT MEETING of the MEMBERS of the FIRST and SECOND CONGREGATIONS of PROTESTANT DISSENTERS in Belfast, was held in the Meeting house of the Second Congregation, after Divine Service, on Sunday, the 4th of August, 1844—

JOHN G. DUNBAR, Esq., J.P., D.L., in the chair.

Moved by Rev. J. SCOTT PORTER; seconded by ADAM MCLEAN, Esq., and resolved:—

1. That, with devout gratitude we would acknowledge the kind providence of Almighty God to ourselves and our fellow-subjects, as shown in the great advances of religious liberty in this country, but more especially in the recent passing of the Dissenters' Chapels bill into a law; and that we approve of observing the 25th of August as a day of special religious exercises and thanksgiving on this account, as recommended by the late meeting of the Irish Non-subscribing Presbyterian association.

Moved by JAMES GRIMSHAW, Esq., Whitehouse; seconded by SAMUEL BRUCE, Esq., Thorndale, and resolved:—

2. That the Dissenters' Chapels bill having now received the Royal assent, and thus become the law of the land, we feel prompted to give expression to our sentiments of loyalty and gratitude to our beloved Sovereign for completing a measure which will render her reign for ever distinguished in the history of religious toleration; and that a loyal and dutiful address, embodying these sentiments, be prepared and forwarded to the Right Hon. the Secretary of State for presentation to her Majesty.

Moved by ROBERT MONTGOMERY, Esq., Sandymount; seconded by ALEXANDER BRENNAN, Esq., and resolved:—

3. That the address now read be adopted, and that it be engrossed and signed by the Chairman of this meeting, and by the two Secretaries, in the name of the congregations.

Moved by ROBERT GRIMSHAW, Esq., J.P., D.L., Longwood; seconded by FRANCIS RITCHIE, Esq.:—

4. That, when we reflect upon the peace and satisfaction of mind resulting from the suppression of all the attacks so unjustly menaced against our congregational properties, we feel that the warm expression of our thanks is most justly due to Sir Robert Peel and the other members of her Majesty's government, for introducing to parliament a bill to quiet us in the possession of those houses of worship which we have so long occupied, which we feel to be our rightful property, and which are endued to us by so many solemn and pleasing recollections.

Moved by S. S. THOMSON, Esq., M.D.; seconded by MICHAEL ANDREWS, Esq., Ardyne, and resolved:—

5. That we owe, and hereby tender, our grateful thanks to the Lord High Chancellor of England, for that lucid and powerful exposition of our case, by which its merits were made so extensively known, and were so deeply impressed on the public mind; and for his consistent and zealous support of the measure, in every stage of its progress.

Moved by JOHN RUSSELL, Esq., Newforge; seconded by THOMAS CORBETT, Esq., and resolved:—

6. That we also owe a debt of gratitude to the Lords Brougham, Cottenham, and Campbell, and to the other Law Lords, for co-operating so heartily with the Lord Chancellor in carrying this measure through the House of Peers.

Moved by JAMES CAMPBELL, Esq.; seconded by VALENTINE WHITTLE, Esq., and resolved:—

7. That the Marquises of Lansdowne and Clanricarde, Earls Fitzwilliam and Minto, the Bishop of Durham and Norwich, the Lords Montagu and Beaumont, and the other noble Peers constituting the majority in the House of Lords, are entitled to our thanks, for the sympathy which they manifested in our cause, and for the deep interest which they took in promoting this Act.

Moved by the Rev. WILLIAM BRUCE; seconded by JOHN GRAY, Esq., and resolved:—

8. That, estimating the difficulties and obstacles interposed in the way of the members of the Commons' House, in order to prevent the progress of this act, and considering the indefatigable exertions made to excite the utmost religious antipathies against us, we acknowledge, and are thankful for, the magnanimous boldness with which the leading members of the House of Commons vindicated our claims, firmly refusing to allow sectarian hatred to have any influence on their minds, and maintaining the broad principle of toleration, with a force of reason and eloquence, that will render the debate, in that House, on the second reading of the Bill, conspicuous, to distant times, in our parliamentary history.

Moved by W. J. C. ALLEN, Esq., J.P.; seconded by JAMES BOOME, Esq., Seaview, and resolved:—

9. That, for the distinguished parts which they took in the debate on the second reading of the bill, and in the subsequent discussions in the House of Commons, we offer our cordial thanks to Sir William Follett, attorney-general for England, to Sir Frederick Thesiger, solicitor-general, to the Right Hon. Thomas B. Macaulay, to Mr Bernal, to Mr Monckton Milnes, to the Right Hon. W. Gladstone, to the Right Hon. Richard L. Sheil, to the Right Hon. Sir Robert Peel, to the Right Hon. Lord John Russell, to Lord Sandon, to Mr Cardwell, and to Sir Thomas Wilde; and that we feel deeply indebted to the members composing the glorious majorities, who, by their votes, affirmed the principle of this just and necessary measure of relief.

Moved by ROBERT PATTERSON, Esq.; seconded by JOHN GILLES, Esq., and resolved:—

10. That we are desirous of reciprocating with our Christian brethren, of all religious denominations, the feelings of kind-

ness, equity, and justice, which induced so many persons, widely dissenting from our views of doctrine, to present petitions to the legislature, praying for an act to relieve us from the hardships occasioned by the state of the law, as declared in several judicial decisions; and to sanction the recent measure, by the influence of their character and talents.

Moved by JOHN RIDDELL, Esq., Vermont; seconded by WILLIAM MC'DAW, Esq., and resolved:—

11. That our warm thanks are due to the proprietor and editor of the *Northern Whig*, for the early, consistent, and persevering support given by that journal to the Dissenters' Chapels bill, and for the paramount ability with which it advocated our claims; and also to the *Leeds Mercury*, and the other liberal papers, which, during the progress of the measure, espoused and vindicated our cause.

Moved by JOHN CURELL, Esq., Clonard; seconded by JOHN STEVENSON, Esq., Springfield, and resolved:—

12. That, although we feel a peculiar interest in the recent act of parliament, since it originated in a desire to secure us from meditated injustice, yet we rejoice to look upon it as a comprehensive measure, founded on the great principle of protestant dissent, the right of private judgment, and, as such, conducive to the security and comfort of all dissenters—of those who opposed its progress, as well as of ourselves; and that we trust the spirit of even-handed justice which this act displays, will be carried still further, removing all impediments to the freedom of religious opinion, whatever may be their nature, and to whatsoever portion of the community they may apply.

Moved by J. THOMSON TENNENT, Esq., Hazelbank; seconded by SAMUEL ARCHER, Esq., and resolved:—

13. That our deepfelt gratitude is due to the Rev. W. Bruce, the Rev. John Porter, W. J. C. Allen, Esq., and Francis Whittle, Esq., the gentlemen composing the deputation for promoting the recent act, on the part of these congregations, and of the presbytery of Antrim, for their kindness in undertaking that laborious and important mission; for the masterly manner in which they conducted the business entrusted to them; for the ability which they displayed in bringing the merits of our cause before the minds of the government and the legislature, and in detecting and refuting the erroneous statements put forward in opposition to the principle of the bill; and for the manly spirit of candour, integrity, and firmness, by which their proceedings were marked, and which so powerfully contributed to that triumphant success which attended the measure in every step of its progress, in both Houses of Parliament.

Moved by THOMAS BLAIN, Esq.; seconded by JOHN MONTGOMERY, Esq., Beersbridge cottage, and resolved:—

14. That our thanks are due to the Rev. Dr Montgomery and the Rev. William Glendy, the deputies of the Remonstrant synod, and to the Rev. Dr Ledlie, Rev. George Armstrong, and Henry Hutton, Esq., deputies from Dublin, for their zealous co-operation and efficient services in promoting this important work.

Moved by WILLIAM GRAY, Esq., Graymount, seconded by JOHN DUNVILLE, Esq., and resolved:—

15. That we cannot overlook the valuable assistance and zealous co-operation of the committee of the English Presbyterian Union, of which the late George William Wood, Esq., was the original chairman, and which, since his lamented death, has been, with such ability and energy, presided over by Mark Phillips, Esq.—we feel that to the long-continued and unrewarded exertions of this Committee, in making all the necessary preparations, and furnishing the requisite information to the members of parliament, we are much indebted for the effective manner in which our case was argued, both in the House of Lords and the House of Commons.

Moved by C. B. GRIMSHAW, Esq., Lindfield; seconded by GEORGE M'TRAIL, Esq., Abbey hill, and resolved:—

16. That Edwin Wilkins Field, Esq., is entitled to our especial thanks, for the early and persevering interest which he took in the Irish cases; and that, on this account, we feel peculiar pleasure in concurring, as we do heartily, in the acknowledgment, which has been so generally made, of his zealous, able, and disinterested services: and that Charles Bischoff, Esq., is also entitled to our thanks, for his advice, co-operation, and exertions.

JOHN G. DUNBAR, Chairman.

J. G. Dunbar, Esq., having left the Chair, and Robert Montgomery, Esq., having been called thereto, it was moved by ANDREW MARSHALL, Esq., M.D., seconded by HENRY GARRETT, Esq., Cromac house, and resolved:—

That the thanks of this Meeting are due to J. G. Dunbar, Esq., for his dignified and proper conduct in the Chair.

ROBERT MONTGOMERY, Chairman.

GEORGE K. SMITH, Sec. of First Congregation.

JAMES ANDREWS, Sec. of Second Congregation.

A MEETING of the BAPTIST WESTERN UNION, held at Falmouth, on Wednesday, the 3rd of July, 1843, it was unanimously

RESOLVED—

I. That we have heard with feelings of the most poignant sorrow, of a determination, declared by Lord John Russell, to propose in the Commons house of parliament, the introduction of slave-grown sugar into Great Britain; and feeling convinced that such a step would give an awful impetus to the horrors of the slave trade, and thus inflict accumulated misery on tens of thousands of the unhappy sons of Africa, we earnestly implore the friends of freedom and of God, to resist by every constitutional means so destructive a project.

II. That the present state of the poor in our beloved country demands and receives our deepest sympathy; and that we urge upon the friends of free trade in England to use all their influence for the reduction of the war tax on colonial sugar and coffee, that thus the poor of England may obtain the necessities of life at a cheaper rate, without having them accompanied with the guilt, the blood, and the degradation of slavery.

III. That, while we most sincerely sympathise with the proprietors of Jamaica, in the severe drought with which it has pleased the Divine Being to afflict this island, by which all classes have so much suffered; we cannot but record our conviction that—by a reduction of the extraordinary amount of taxation, so needlessly raised, and so improperly expended, and by a blending of the interests of all parties—this island might successfully compete with the free cultivators of sugar in other parts of the world.

IV. That, it being the imperative duty of every citizen and freeholder to exert his energies for the welfare of the island in which he lives, we most earnestly implore all who possess the elective franchise to demand from their representatives that Reduction in the public Expenditure which the state of the Colony imperatively demands.

Signed, on behalf of the Union,

DAVID DAY, Chairman.

THOS F. ABBOTT, Secretary.

THE FRENCH OUTRAGE IN TAHITI  
DETHRONEMENT OF QUEEN POMARE, AND IMPRISONMENT AND ESCAPE OF THE BRITISH CONSUL.

A PUBLIC MEETING of the FRIENDS of PROTESTANT MISSIONS, held at FINSBURY CHAPEL, MOORFIELDS, on TUESDAY EVENING, AUGUST 6th.

The Rev. A. FLETCHER, A.M., in the chair.

The following Resolutions were unanimously carried:—

Moved by D. W. WIRE, Esq.; seconded by the Rev. W. FORSTER; and supported by the Rev. J. BURNET:—

That this Meeting feels religiously impelled to give expression to the feelings of indignation and just resentment which must have been awakened in the bosom of every patriotic Englishman, by the unprecedented, ruffianly, and unprovoked outrage committed by the French authorities in Tahiti, on the person of her Majesty's Consul, in violation of the law of nations, and of every principle of honour and justice.

Moved by the Rev. G. SMITH; seconded by SAMUEL BLACKBURN, Esq.:—

That this Meeting feels that the good faith and honour of Great Britain have been shamefully compromised by the denial to Queen Pomare of that protection, so earnestly and repeatedly solicited, in fulfilment of the pledge given to her predecessor by

Mr Secretary Canning, in the name of his Britannic Majesty, in 1827, by the withdrawal from the station of a naval force adequate to protect British interests against piratical aggressions in those seas, and by the tacit, if not stipulated abandonment to a rival maritime power of islands, the whole value of which, in a commercial respect, had been created by British enterprise.

That the conduct of her Majesty's ministers, in covertly conniving at, or meanly acquiescing in, the French protectorate established in Tahiti by fraud and violence, is the more deplorable, and dishonouring to the British name, inasmuch as the avowed design of the Roman catholic missionaries sent out under the sanction of the King of France, was, to attack the fortress of protestantism in the bosom of the great ocean, and to annihilate heresy as taught by the English missionaries, whose apostolic labours have been crowned, through the Divine blessing, with such astonishing and beneficial results. That while, as protestant missionaries, these excellent men have called for no state support or government sanction, and have disclaimed the employment of all secular authority or compulsory power in propagating the Christian faith, they have reason to complain that a hostile interference with their labours on the part of the church of Rome, supported by the arms of France, should have been allowed and acquiesced in by the government of this country.

Moved by JOSIAH CONDER, Esq.; seconded by Mr D. PRATT:—

That these resolutions be printed and advertised at the discretion of the Rev. Chairman and the other gentlemen who have convened the meeting.

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